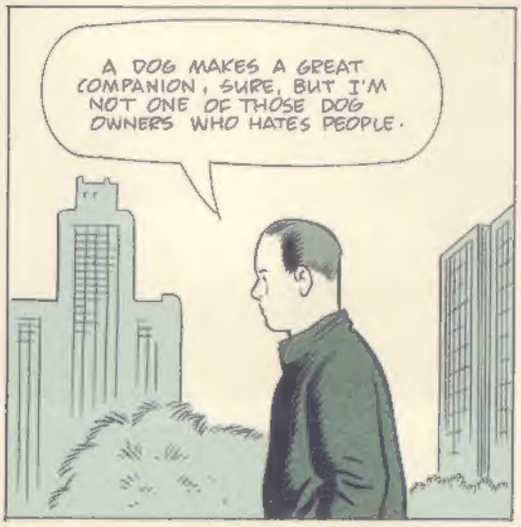
EIGHTBALL

ANDY 2004
MY NAME IS ANDY, AND THIS IS DIANNE.
SHE'S EIGHTEEN YEARS OLD, IF YOU CAN BELIEVE IT.
I HAD HER MOTHER LUCY FOR TWELVE YEARS, GOD REST HER SOUL.
I'VE BEEN MARRIED TWICE AND DIVORCED TWICE.
NEITHER ONE OF THEM WAS WORTH A DAMN. JUST A COUPLE OF WHORES OUT TO DRAIN A MAN OF HIS MONEY AND VIGOR.
TOO BAD FOR THEM, I DON'T HAVE MUCH OF EITHER. TOUGH SHIT, LADIES.
1517
JINGLE JINGLE
I'VE STAYED OUT OF TROUBLE FOR MANY YEARS NOW.
CLICK
I DON'T SMOKE ANYMORE. NOT SINCE I WAS A KID, REALLY.
SURE I'VE FALLEN OFF THE WAGON A FEW TIMES, BUT THAT'S ANOTHER STORY... I'LL GET TO ALL THAT LATER.
I HAVE ONLY ONE FRIEND IN THE WORLD.

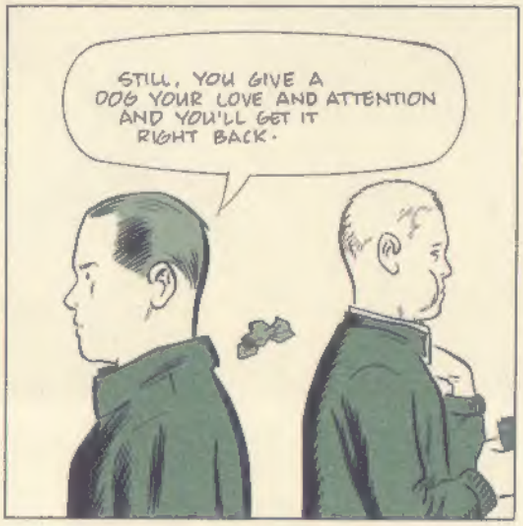
I'VE DONE RIGHT BY HIM AND HE'S DONE RIGHT BY ME.

I DON'T LIKE TO BUG HIM TOO MUCH, THOUGH.

I'M NOT ONE TO TAKE ADVANTAGE.


A DOG MAKES A GREAT COMPANION, SURE, BUT I'M NOT ONE OF THOSE DOG OWNERS WHO HATES PEOPLE.

I GIVE EVERYBODY A FAIR SHAKE.

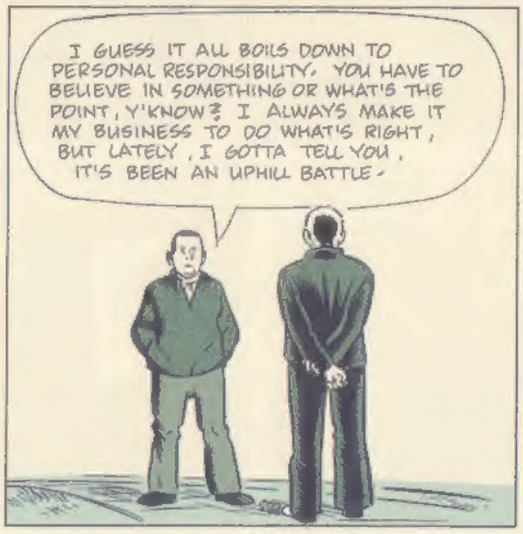

STILL, YOU GIVE A DOG YOUR LOVE AND ATTENTION AND YOU'LL GET IT RIGHT BACK.

YOU WANT TO PICK THAT UP?

EXCUSE ME?

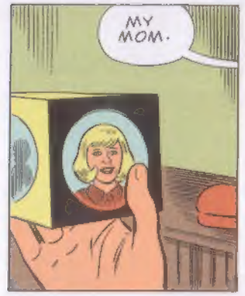
YOU HEARD ME.
WHAT ARE YOU GONNA DO ABOUT IT?

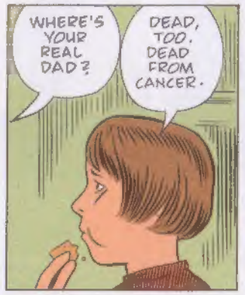
WELL THAT'S THE THOUSAND DOLLAR QUESTION, ISN'T IT?


I GUESS IT ALL BOILS DOWN TO PERSONAL RESPONSIBILITY. YOU HAVE TO BELIEVE IN SOMETHING OR WHAT'S THE POINT, Y'KNOW? I ALWAYS MAKE IT MY BUSINESS TO DO WHAT'S RIGHT, BUT LATELY, I GOTTA TELL YOU, IT'S BEEN AN UPHILL BATTLE.

YOU TRY TO MAKE THE WORLD A BETTER PLACE AND WHAT DOES IT GET YOU? I MEAN, CHRIST, HOW THE HELL DOES ONE MAN STAND A CHANCE AGAINST FOUR BILLION ASSHOLES?

# THE ORIGIN OF ANDY





MY DAD WAS A FAMOUS SCIENTIST. HE USED TO WORK AT A LAB IN TENNESSEE. HE MET MY MOM WHILE SHE WAS WORKING AT A RESTAURANT. SHE WAS ONLY TWENTY-TWO WHEN SHE DIED.

SO THEN MY DAD AND I CAME HERE TO LIVE WITH MY GRANDPARENTS, AND AFTER HE DIED THEY RAISED ME AS THEIR OWN.

AND THEN MY GRANDMOTHER DIED, SO NOW IT'S JUST ME AND PAPPY.

ANOTHER PART OF MY STORY IS THAT IN 1973 MY DAD AND I MOVED TO LIVERMORE, CA. FOR A YEAR AND THAT'S WHEN I MET MY GIRLFRIEND DUSTY. SHE LIVED NEXT DOOR AND NOW WE WRITE TO EACH OTHER ALL THE TIME.

I DON'T FEEL SORRY FOR MYSELF, BUT SOMETIMES I THINK ALL THESE TRAGEDIES COULDN'T JUST BE A COINCIDENCE. MAYBE IT MEANS SOMETHING. MAYBE I'M DESTINED FOR SOMETHING BIG.

WHAT DO YOU THINK OF ANDY?

WHICH ANDY?

I DON'T KNOW HIM AT ALL.

I'VE HEARD A LOT OF WEIRD STUFF ABOUT THAT GUY. YOU MEAN SKINNY ANDY, RIGHT?

I WANT HIM TO FUCK ME. JUST KIDDING.

I THINK I HAD HIM IN ONE CLASS BUT HE NEVER SAYS ANYTHING.

FAGGOT.

HE THINKS HE'S BETTER THAN EVERYBODY, BUT HE'S DEFINITELY NOT.

HE'S NOTHING.

DOES HE EVEN GO TO THIS SCHOOL ANYMORE?

WHO CARES? NO OPINION.

THANK YOU.

LOUIE AT HOME

WHAT IS THIS SHIT?

LOUIE!

WHAT? ALL I'M SAYING IS IT TASTES LIKE SHIT.

YOU NEED TO SHOW SOME RESPECT FOR YOUR MOTHER.

WHO ASKED YOU? JUST BECAUSE YOU'RE FUCKING MY SISTER DOESN'T--

MOM!

LOUIE!

LOUIE, C.J. IS THERESA'S GUEST AND I WANT YOU TO--

JESUS CHRIST, MOM! OPEN YOUR EYES!

HE'S ALL STRUNG OUT! DON'T YOU KNOW WHAT HE'S DOING UP THERE?

LOOK, WHY DON'T YOU STAY OUT OF MY BUSINESS?

WHAT BUSINESS? DRUG DEALING?

DON'T PUSH IT, LOUIE.

MOM!

OH, I'M SO SCARED!

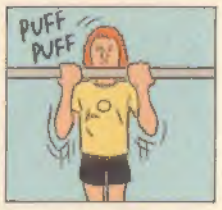
MAYBE YOU SHOULD BE.

JESUS, LOUIE-- WHY DO YOU ALWAYS HAVE TO BE SUCH AN ASSHOLE?

# ANDY'S WORLD

C'MON ANDY!

HUFF!
OKAY, I'LL GIVE YOU 4.
STOOB!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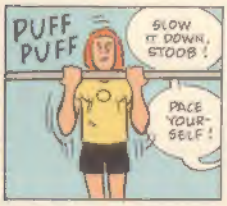
PUFF
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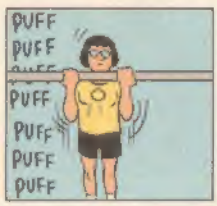
SLOW IT DOWN, STOOB!
PACE YOUR-SELF!

NGGH
OKAY, THAT'S ENOUGH.
27 FOR STOOB!

LOUIE! YOU'RE UP!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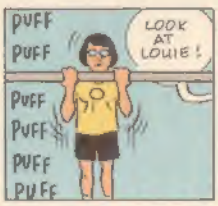
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LOOK AT LOUIE!
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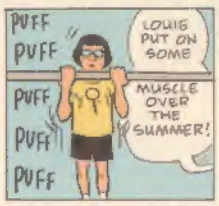

PUFF
PUFF
LOUIE PUT ON SOME MUSCLE OVER THE SUMMER!
PUFF
PUFF
PUFF

PUFF
PUFF
28!

LOU-IE!
WAY TO GO, LOUIE!

C'MON, LET'S GO.

LOU-IE!
JUST A SECOND...

HEY...

HEY STOOB, I JUST WANTED TO SAY THAT I GOT REALLY LUCKY OUT THERE TODAY... YOU JUST NEEDED TO PACE YOURSELF A LITTLE BETTER, LIKE COACH PASTERNAK SAID...

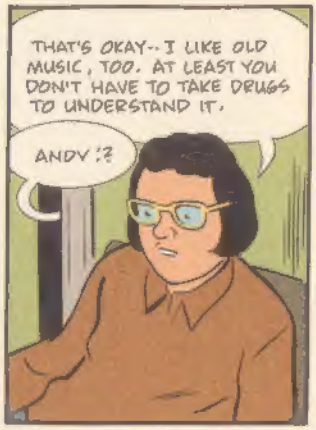
ANYWAY, THANKS FOR BEING SUCH A GOOD SPORT AND EVERYTHING...

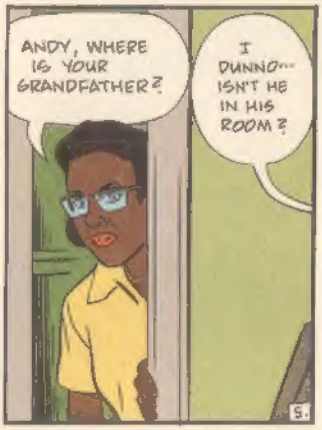
DID YOU SEE THAT? WHAT THE FUCK IS THAT SUPPOSED TO MEAN?
WHO CARES? I COULDN'T CARE LESS IF THOSE PEOPLE LIKE ME OR NOT.

I DON'T GIVE A SHIT IF YOU LIKE ME, BUT YOU DAMN WELL BETTER SHOW SOME RESPECT!

YOU LIKE THIS?
YEAH.

MAN, YOU'RE A REAL SQUARE!
SO WHAT.


THAT'S OKAY-- I LIKE OLD MUSIC, TOO. AT LEAST YOU DON'T HAVE TO TAKE DRUGS TO UNDERSTAND IT.
ANDY!?


ANDY, WHERE IS YOUR GRANDFATHER?
I DUNNO... ISN'T HE IN HIS ROOM?

THAT MAN IS LOSING HIS MIND, ANDY.
AND WHY DO YOU EAT THAT MESS WHEN YOU KNOW I'M ABOUT TO PUT YOUR DINNER ON THE TABLE ?!
SORRY, DINAH.
CRUNKLE
WHY ARE YOU SO SCARED OF HER? SHE'S JUST A MAID.
I'M NOT SCARED.
HEY...
YOU FUCKING FAG!!
ANDY!
YEAH?
ANDY?
G'NIGHT, BOY.
G'NIGHT, PAPPY.
CLACK
CLACK
CLACK
LISTEN TO THIS.. I TAPED IT OFF THE RADIO.
WHIIIIIIIRRRRR
CLICK
YOU LIKE THIS?
I DUNNO... I THINK SO.
IT MAKES ME WANT TO KILL SOMEBODY.

# Dear Dusty

I'm sorry I haven't written in so long. I've been hanging out with my friend Lowie a lot. He's a pretty cool kid. His dad used to be a reporter for the Channel Nine news but he became a drunk and now he's in Arizona.

I guess I don't have a lot in common with most other kids. I don't really like rock music or a lot of TV shows. Lowie listens to Punk rock which I hated at first until he explained it to me. I'm more into old music, I guess.

It's my opinion that most people don't really care about music anyway, that they just want to be part of "the cool crowd," which is okay, I guess. My trouble is I can never really find a group I want to join. Lowie's Italian and a Catholic, which he says sucks but at least it's something. I'm not even sure what my family is. Plain American, I guess. Maybe I should listen to the national anthem or something.

I love you so much. Why are we so far apart? I saw "Rocky" finally, which was good like you said. I went with Lowie and his mom. Don't worry, I haven't been going on any dates!

I still think about that year in Livermore and all the stuff we used to do. Don't you think it's weird how you never hear that song on the radio anymore? I guess that's just the way it is.

Anyway, I hope you write me soon and tell me what you are up to.

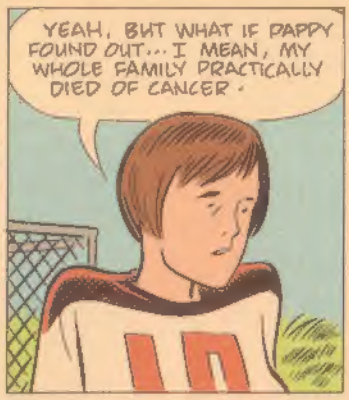
Your boyfriend,

andy

# CIGARETTE?

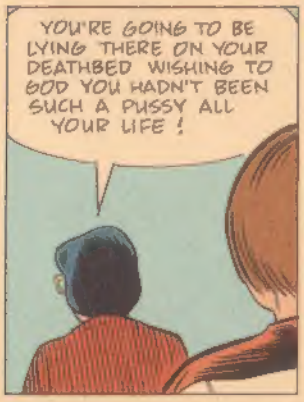
NO THANKS.

YOU PROMISED!


YEAH, BUT WHAT IF PAPPY FOUND OUT... I MEAN, MY WHOLE FAMILY PRACTICALLY DIED OF CANCER.

SO IT'S IN YOUR BLOOD! YOU MAY AS WELL LIVE IT UP WHILE YOU CAN!

I'M WORRIED ABOUT YOU.


YOU'RE GOING TO BE LYING THERE ON YOUR DEATHBED WISHING TO GOD YOU HADN'T BEEN SUCH A PUSSY ALL YOUR LIFE!

HI-YAHHH

C'MON, PUSSY!

MOVE IT!

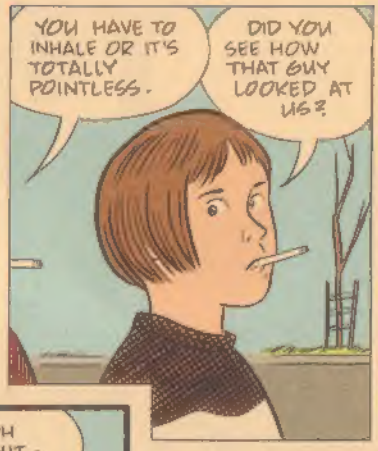
IT'S NO BIG DEAL... COME ON!

FUCK

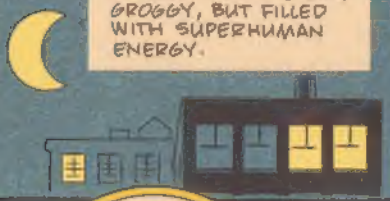
THAT WAS MOST EXCELLENT.

MEETING ME WAS THE BEST THING THAT EVER HAPPENED TO YOU...

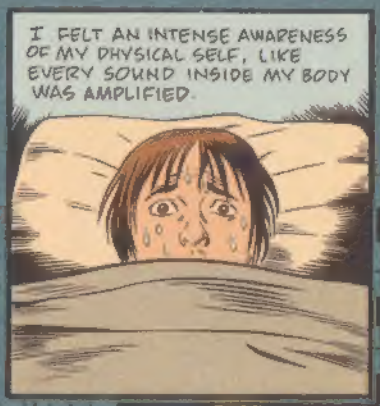
I'M SORRY I CALLED YOU A PUSSY.

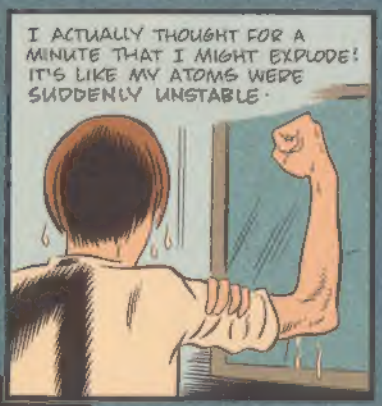


# INCREDIBLE



I WOKE UP AT 5 AM, GROGGY, BUT FILLED WITH SUPERHUMAN ENERGY.

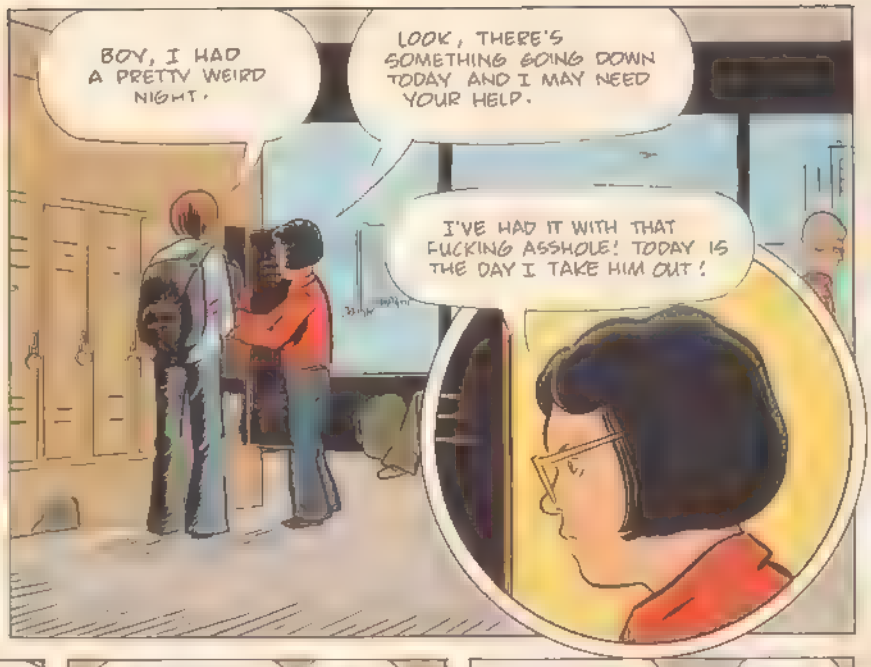




# THE NEXT DAY

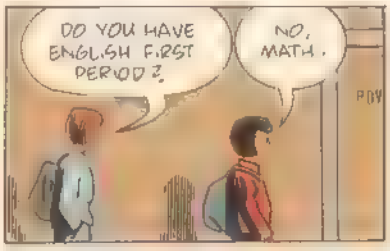
EVERY MOLECULE HAD BEEN DRAINED OF ENERGY. I COULD BARELY SUMMON THE STRENGTH TO BREATHE.

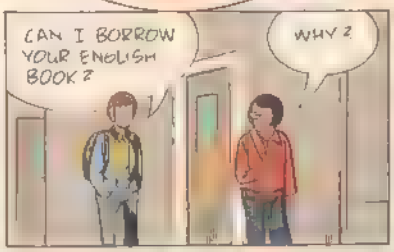
IT OCCURRED TO ME THAT LOUIE HAD PUT DRUGS IN MY CIGARETTE, BUT THAT DIDN'T REALLY MAKE SENSE...


BOY, I HAD A PRETTY WEIRD NIGHT.
LOOK, THERE'S SOMETHING GOING DOWN TODAY AND I MAY NEED YOUR HELP.
I'VE HAD IT WITH THAT FUCKING ASSHOLE! TODAY IS THE DAY I TAKE HIM OUT!

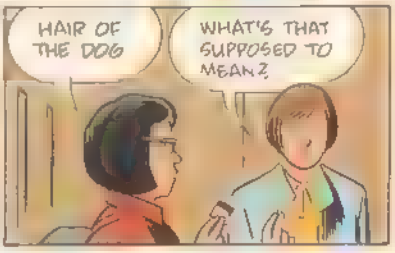
WHO, STOOB?
FUCK YEAH, STOOB!

AND WHAT AM I SUPPOSED TO DO?
JUST KEEP YOUR EAR TO THE GROUND.

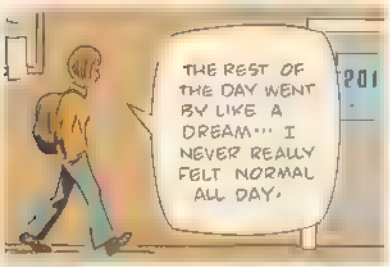

DO YOU HAVE ENGLISH FIRST PERIOD?
NO, MATH.


CAN I BORROW YOUR ENGLISH BOOK?
WHY?

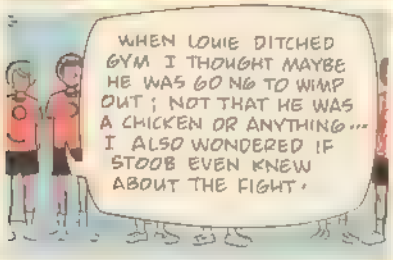
HEY, I GOT SOMETHING FOR YOU.


HAIR OF THE DOG
WHAT'S THAT SUPPOSED TO MEAN?

YOU'RE SURE YOU WANT TO DO THIS?
FUCK YOU!


THE REST OF THE DAY WENT BY LIKE A DREAM... I NEVER REALLY FELT NORMAL ALL DAY.

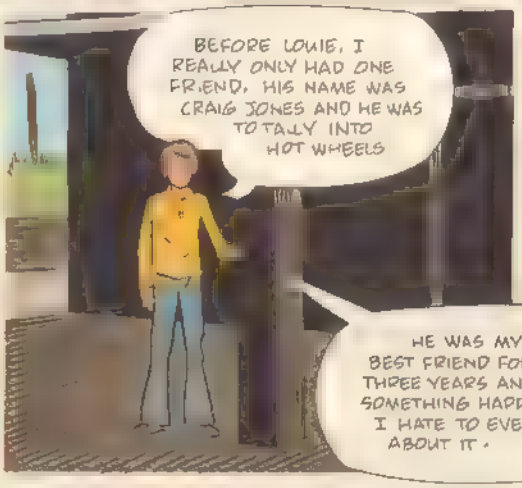
I EVEN RAISED MY HAND IN SOCIAL STUDIES, JUST TO FREAK MR. BILLINGS OUT


WHEN LOUIE DITCHED GYM I THOUGHT MAYBE HE WAS GOING TO WIMP OUT; NOT THAT HE WAS A CHICKEN OR ANYTHING... I ALSO WONDERED IF STOOB EVEN KNEW ABOUT THE FIGHT.

LATER, I TRIED TO IMAGINE HOW HARD COACH PASTERNAK WOULD SHIT IF HE SAW ME LIFT UP A CAR!

OKAY, I'M GONNA COUNT TO FIVE...
FUCK YOU.
ONE
YOU DICK-FUCKING
TWO.
PIECE SHIT!

THREE.
BA


BEFORE LOUIE, I REALLY ONLY HAD ONE FRIEND. HIS NAME WAS CRAIG JONES AND HE WAS TOTALLY INTO HOT WHEELS
HE WAS MY BEST FRIEND FOR ALMOST THREE YEARS AND THEN SOMETHING HAPPENED. I HATE TO EVEN THINK ABOUT IT.

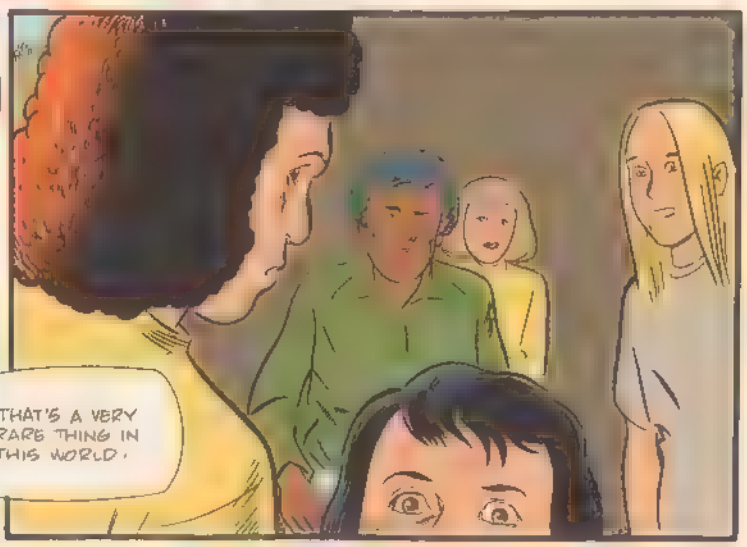
SIX.
CR

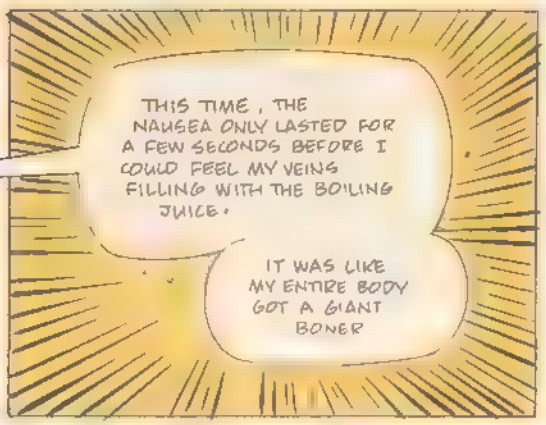
AFTER THAT, I WAS VERY CAREFUL ABOUT MAKING FRIENDS. MOST PEOPLE DON'T TAKE FRIENDSHIP VERY SERIOUSLY AND IT'S ALL TOO EASY TO GET HURT.

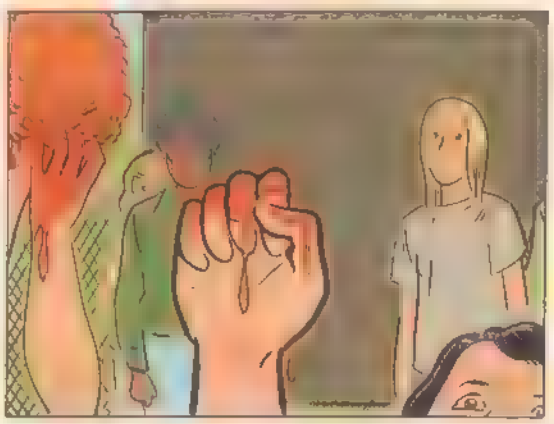
I DON'T UNDERSTAND HOW SOME PEOPLE CAN HAVE LIKE TEN OR TWENTY "CLOSE FRIENDS." ARE THEY REALLY FRIENDS? IT JUST SEEMS SO SHALLOW.
APOLOGIZE!

CRACK
APOLOGIZE TO ME!

LOUIE HAD HIS FAULTS, BUT AT LEAST HE WAS A GOOD FRIEND.
THAT'S A VERY RARE THING IN THIS WORLD.




THIS TIME, THE NAUSEA ONLY LASTED FOR A FEW SECONDS BEFORE I COULD FEEL MY VEINS FILLING WITH THE BOILING JUICE.
IT WAS LIKE MY ENTIRE BODY GOT A GIANT BONER



HEY! HEY!! BREAK IT UP YOU TWO!

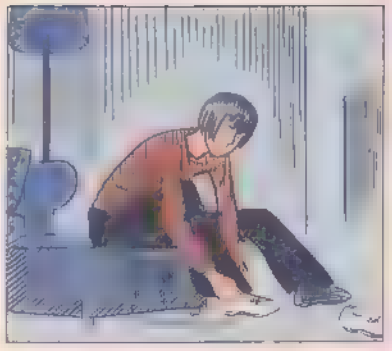
JESUS, ANDY... IS THAT YOU?

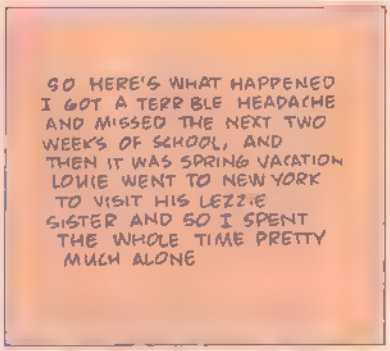
AND I FELT AMAZINGLY GREAT UNTIL MY BRAIN KIND OF OVER-LOADED AND EVERYTHING JUST SORT OF SHORT-CIRCUITED AND IT ALL JUST SHUT DOWN

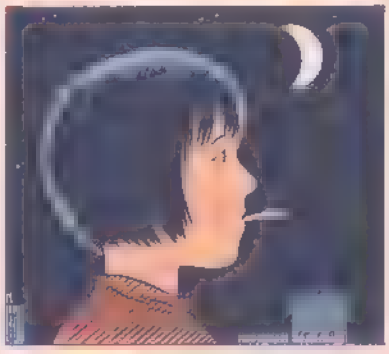
FUCK ME, ANDY!

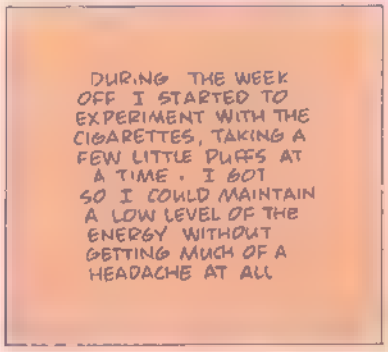
THE

YEAH, BABY - THAT'S IT!




SO HERE'S WHAT HAPPENED I GOT A TERRIBLE HEADACHE AND MISSED THE NEXT TWO WEEKS OF SCHOOL, AND THEN IT WAS SPRING VACATION LOUIE WENT TO NEW YORK TO VISIT HIS LEZZIE SISTER AND SO I SPENT THE WHOLE TIME PRETTY MUCH ALONE

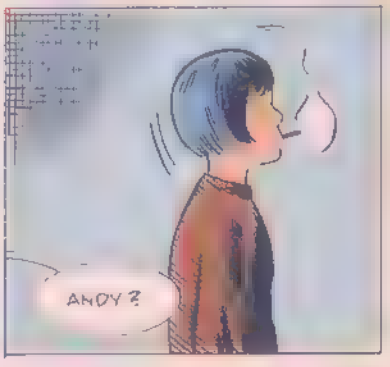


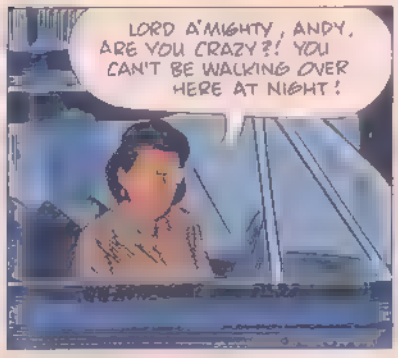

DURING THE WEEK OFF I STARTED TO EXPERIMENT WITH THE CIGARETTES, TAKING A FEW LITTLE PUFFS AT A TIME. I GOT SO I COULD MAINTAIN A LOW LEVEL OF THE ENERGY WITHOUT GETTING MUCH OF A HEADACHE AT ALL

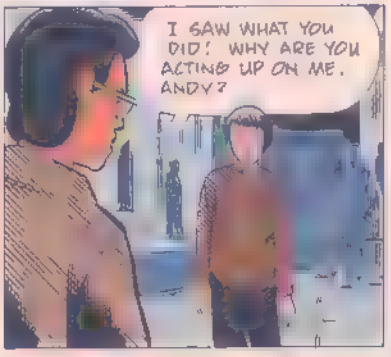
ORIGIN

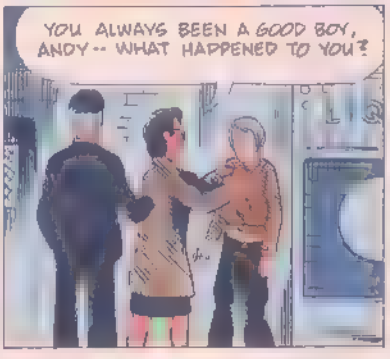
AFTER A FEW DAYS I GOT SO COCKY I EVEN WALKED OVER TO 63RD STREET ON A FRIDAY NIGHT. IT'S LIKE I WAS TOTALLY CONFIDENT I COULDN'T BE HURT. I FELT LIKE I COULD DEFLECT A BULLET, EVEN

SAY BOY..
YOU GOT ANOTHER CIGARETTE BOY?


ANDY?


LORD A'MIGHTY, ANDY, ARE YOU CRAZY?! YOU CAN'T BE WALKING OVER HERE AT NIGHT!

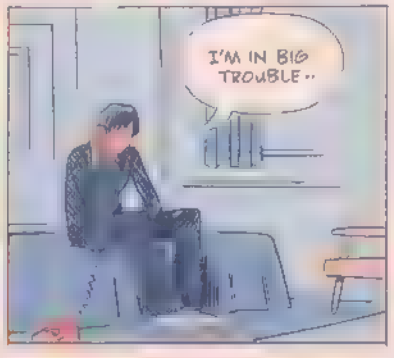

I SAW WHAT YOU DID! WHY ARE YOU ACTING UP ON ME, ANDY?


YOU ALWAYS BEEN A GOOD BOY, ANDY -- WHAT HAPPENED TO YOU?

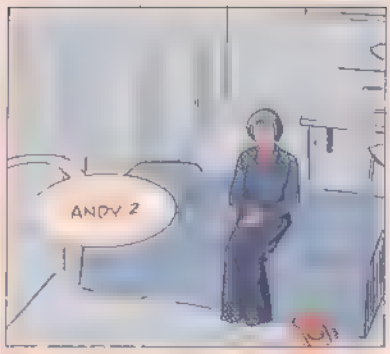
I SWEAR YOU'RE GONNA PUT YOUR GRANDPAPPY IN AN EARLY GRAVE!

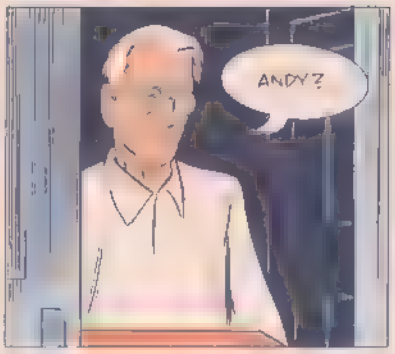
OH ANDY, YOU FUCK ME SO GOOD!

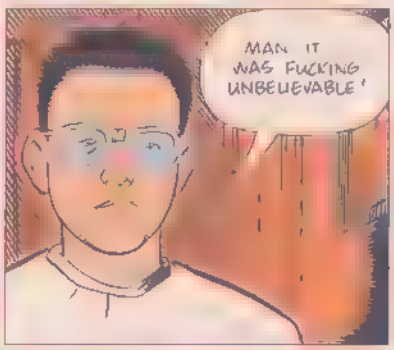
OF

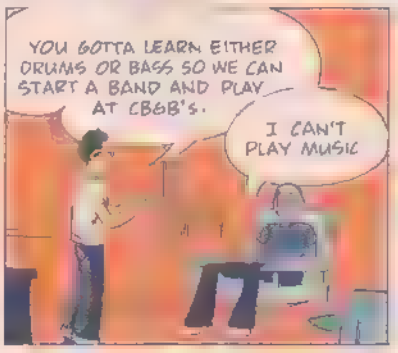

I'M IN BIG TROUBLE..

I'LL TELL YOU LATER I CAN'T TALK..
WHEN DID YOU GET BACK, ANYWAY?
REALLY? WHAT?

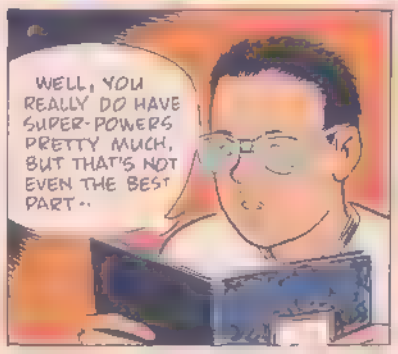


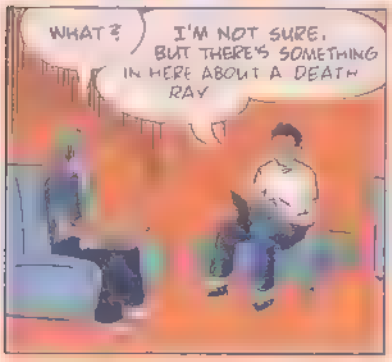





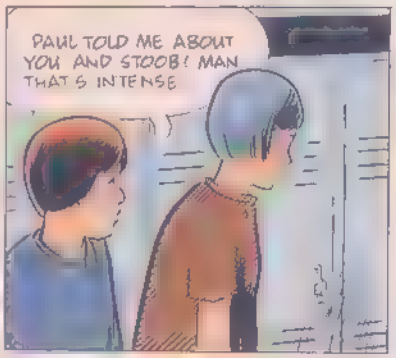



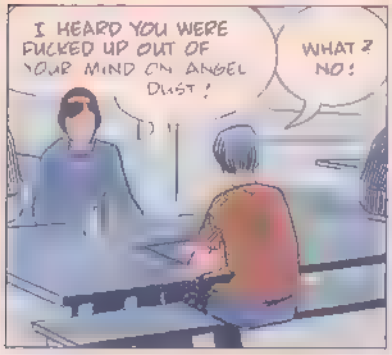
INSIDE THE PACKAGE WAS A BUNCH OF SENTIMENTAL TRINKETS (CUFF LINKS AND STUFF LIKE THAT) AND A COUPLE OF NOTEBOOKS THAT EXPLAINED WHAT WAS GOING ON WITH ME. I LET LOUIE READ IT BECAUSE, TO BE HONEST, IT WAS FREAKING ME OUT TOO MUCH.

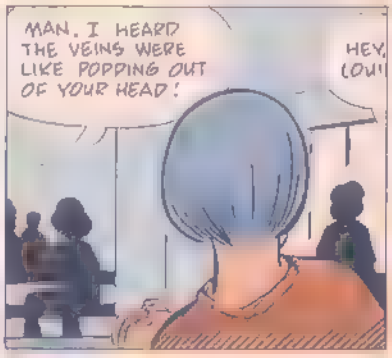


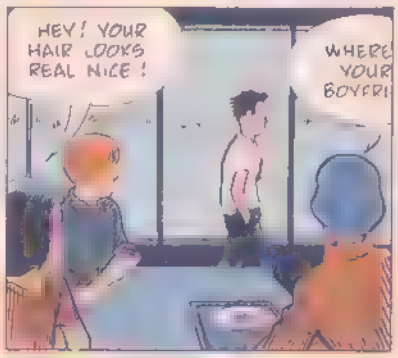




SO THE BASIC STORY IS THAT MY DAD TREATED ME WITH SOME KIND OF EXPERIMENTAL HORMONE THING WHEN I WAS LITTLE THAT WAS SUPPOSED TO BE ACTIVATED BY NICOTINE WHEN I STARTED SMOKING (HE FIGURED ON AGE 13 INSTEAD OF 17). I GUESS HE WAS A SCRAWNY WEAKLING AS A KID AND DIDN'T WANT ME TO TURN OUT THE SAME WAY.

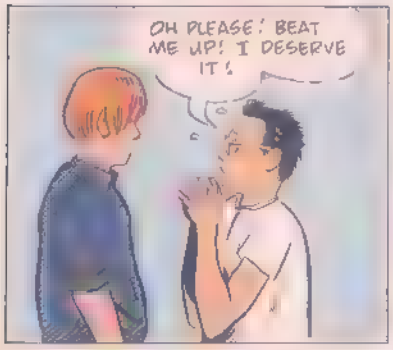


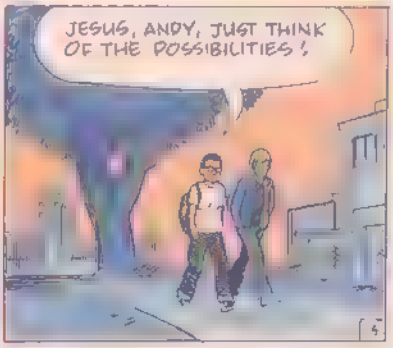




I DON'T THINK MY DAD THOUGHT IT WAS GOING TO WORK THIS WELL. I THINK IT WAS ONLY SUPPOSED TO MAKE ME AS STRONG AS A NORMAL KID. I'M SURE HE THOUGHT I WAS GOING TO USE THIS TO TURN MYSELF INTO THE MOST POPULAR KID IN SCHOOL, BUT THAT SORT OF THING NEVER INTERESTED ME VERY MUCH.



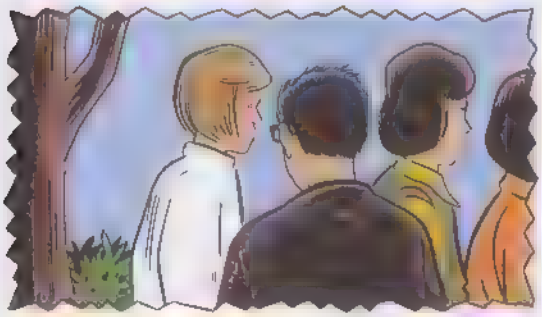


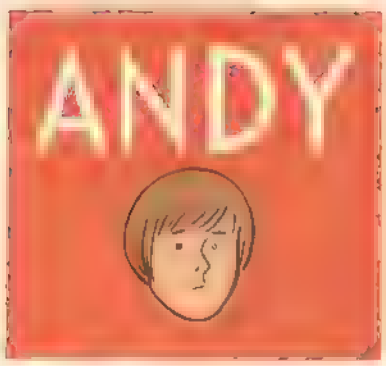
THIS IS TOTALLY POINTLESS. WE CAN'T JUST WALK AROUND TOWN HOPING FOR SOMETHING TO HAPPEN
MAYBE WE SHOULD GET A TELESCOPE ... OR A POLICE RADIO ...
FUCK THAT. I'LL THINK OF SOMETHING.
RAF!
YOU THINK YOU UNDERSTAND ME, BUT YOU DON'T. JUST WHEN YOU THINK YOU GOT ME ALL FIGURED OUT I'LL SURPRISE YOU. I'M A VERY COMPLICATED PERSON. ANDY.
THE LAST TIME I SAW MY DAD I TOLD HIM, "I'M NEVER GONNA LET ANYBODY PUSH ME AROUND AGAIN."
"FROM NOW ON, I'M THE BOSS... UNDERSTAND?"
LET'S FACE IT, ANDY -- GUYS LIKE US DON'T STAND A CHANCE. WE JUST GET CRUSHED IF WE DON'T PUT UP A FIGHT.
THIS IS A GREAT THING FOR US, BUT WE HAVE TO BE CAREFUL, Y'KNOW?
YOU GET A LITTLE POWER AND YOU FORGET WHO THE HELL YOU ARE. THE NEXT THING YOU KNOW, YOU'RE ONE OF THEM.
YOU'RE LUCKY TO HAVE ME AROUND, ANDY. I'LL KEEP YOU HONEST
IT MUST BE NICE TO HAVE A MAID TO CLEAN UP YOUR SHIT.
SHE'S NOT A MAID. SHE DOESN'T HARDLY EVEN COME IN HERE.
SO WHO FOLDS UP ALL YOUR UNDERWEAR AND KEEPS EVERYTHING ALL TIDY AND SHIT? YOU?
WHAT'S WRONG WITH THAT?
MAN, YOU'RE SOMETHING ELSE.

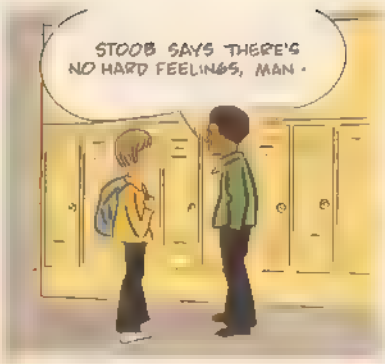
STRIKE THREE
NICE JOB, ANDY!
YOU REALLY CAME THROUGH FOR US
BASE BALL
HEY ANDY, YOU'RE A TAG-OFF! HA HA
THEY CAN'T TALK TO YOU LIKE THAT
YOU KNOW WHAT YOU SHOULD DO?
YEAH, I'M THINKING ABOUT IT.
I THINK YOU SHOULD SMASH A LINER RIGHT IN DRISCOLL'S FACE
YEAH, MAYBE.
TWEEE
WHO'S UP?
HEY, IT'S THE STRIKEOUT KID!
HEY BATTAH
HEY BATTAH BATTAH BATTAH HEY BATTAH
SWING!
HA HA
CLOPP
HEY JOE RUD! KISS MY BOOTY.
HA HA
KNOCK IT OFF, DRISCOLL!
HERE'S THE WIND-UP, AND THE PITCH...
BOOM!
JESUS CHRIST
FOUL BALL
LUCKY SHOT, TAGOFF!
HA HA
KNOCK IT OFF, DRISCOLL
UNGH
SWISH
WHAT HAPPENED?
I WAS TRYING TO KNOCK IT INTO HIS FACE, BUT I SCREWED UP.
STILL YOU SHOWED 'EM SOMETHING.
ANDY! GET IN HERE!
ANDY, MAURICE SAID HE SAW YOU SMOKING IN THE JOHN. IS THAT TRUE?
YES YES IT IS
ALL RIGHT, WELL I'M NOT GOING TO GIVE YOU A BIG LECTURE. JUST CUT IT OUT!
I WILL
Y'KNOW, ANDY -- YOU REALLY SHOWED SOME POP OUT THERE TODAY! HAVE YOU THOUGHT ABOUT GOING OUT FOR VARSITY?
SO WHAT DID YOU SAY?
I TOLD HIM I HAD TO TAKE CARE OF MY SICK GRANDFATHER.
GOOD BOY
WE GOT BIGGER FISH TO FRY.

# THE ADVENTURES OF THE DEATH-RAY

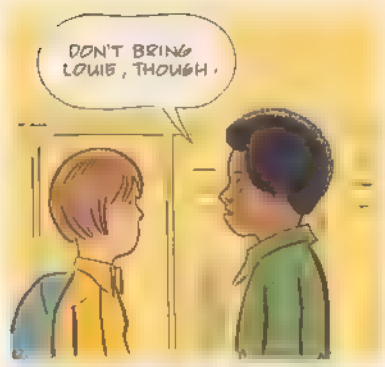
GET READY-- THIS LOOKS LIKE A **SURE THING!**

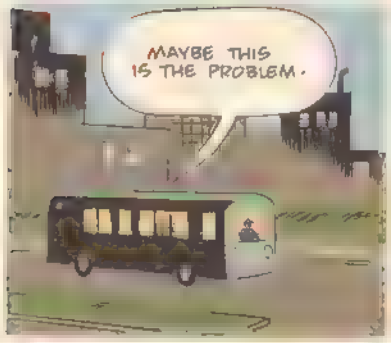


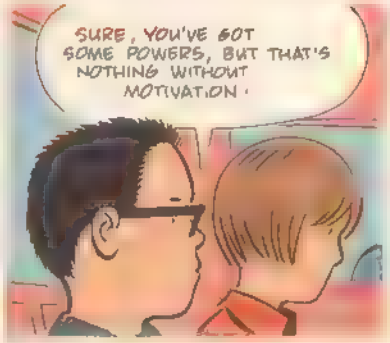

ANDY

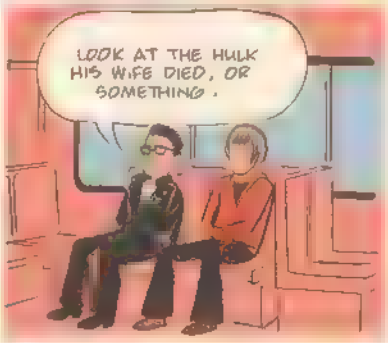

STOOB SAYS THERE'S NO HARD FEELINGS, MAN.

HE WANTS YOU TO COME CHECK OUT HIS PARTY ON FRIDAY NIGHT, OKAY?


DON'T BRING LOUIE, THOUGH.

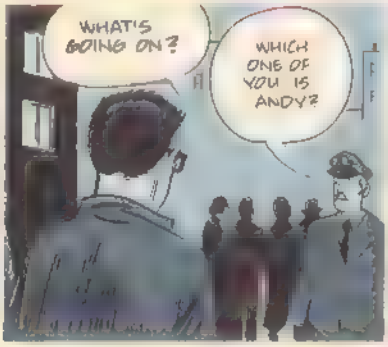

MAYBE THIS IS THE PROBLEM.

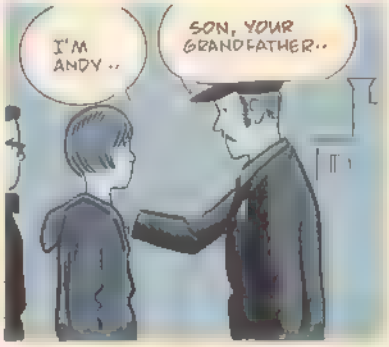

SURE, YOU'VE GOT SOME POWERS, BUT THAT'S NOTHING WITHOUT MOTIVATION.

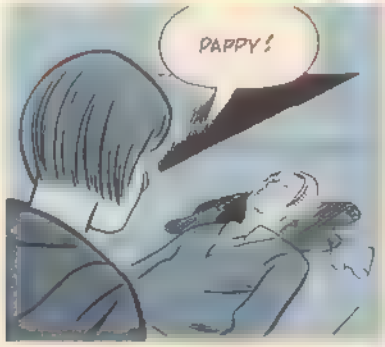

LOOK AT THE HULK HIS WIFE DIED, OR SOMETHING.

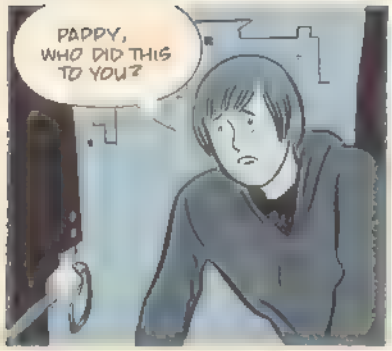
WHO DO YOU HATE THE MOST IN THE WORLD?

SEE, THAT'S THE THING...

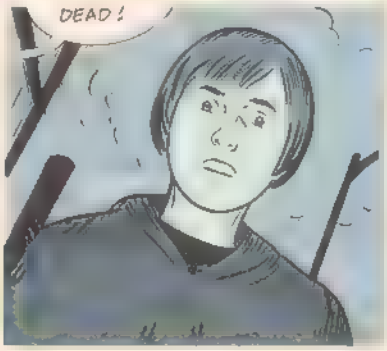

WHAT'S GOING ON?
WHICH ONE OF YOU IS ANDY?

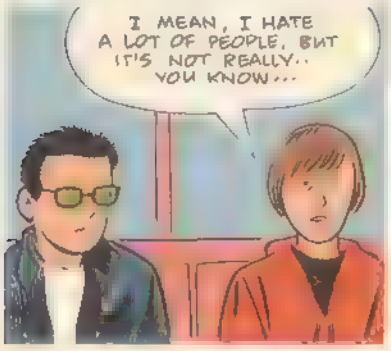

I'M ANDY..
SON, YOUR GRANDFATHER..

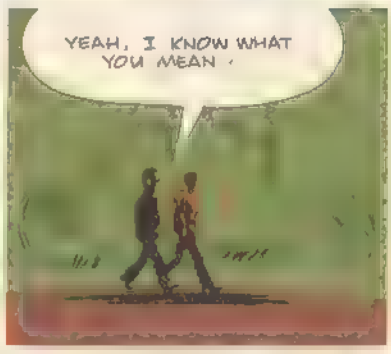

PAPPY!

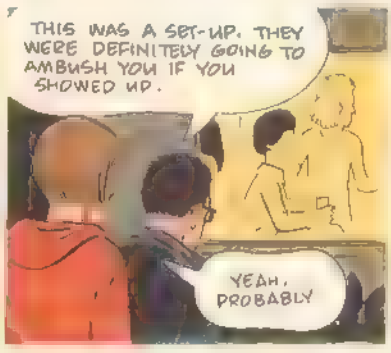

PAPPY, WHO DID THIS TO YOU?

ANDY.


DEAD!


I MEAN, I HATE A LOT OF PEOPLE, BUT IT'S NOT REALLY.. YOU KNOW...


YEAH, I KNOW WHAT YOU MEAN.


THIS WAS A SET-UP. THEY WERE DEFINITELY GOING TO AMBUSH YOU IF YOU SHOWED UP.
YEAH, PROBABLY

JUST THINK..IF WE HAD THAT DEATH RAY WE COULD BLOW UP THE WHOLE HOUSE AND WATCH THEM ALL SCREAM IN PAIN.

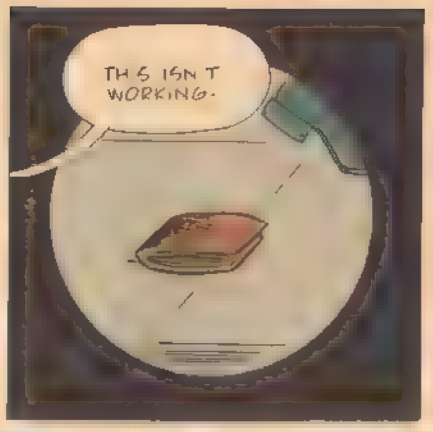
HEY, SHE'S IN MY GERMAN CLASS. I GUESS I'D LET HER LIVE.

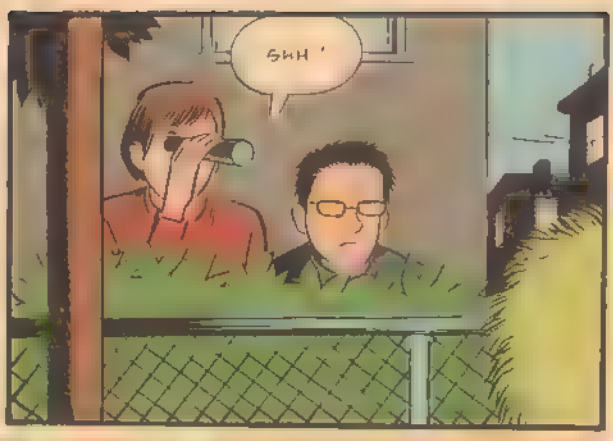
LET'S GO. THIS IS BORING.

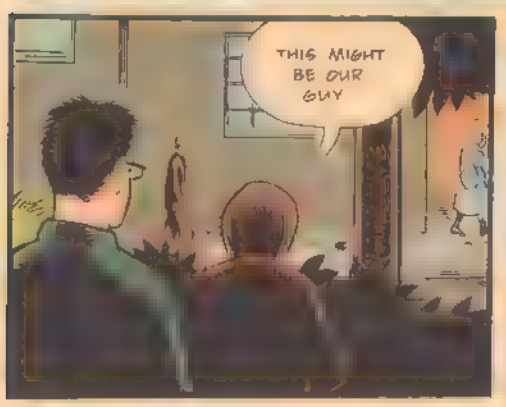
WE CAME ALL THE WAY OUT HERE. WE CAN'T JUST LEAVE WITHOUT DOING ANYTHING..
LIKE WHAT?

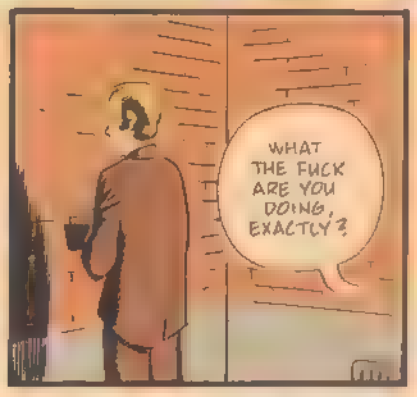
HEY LOOK. THERE'S STOOB'S CAR...

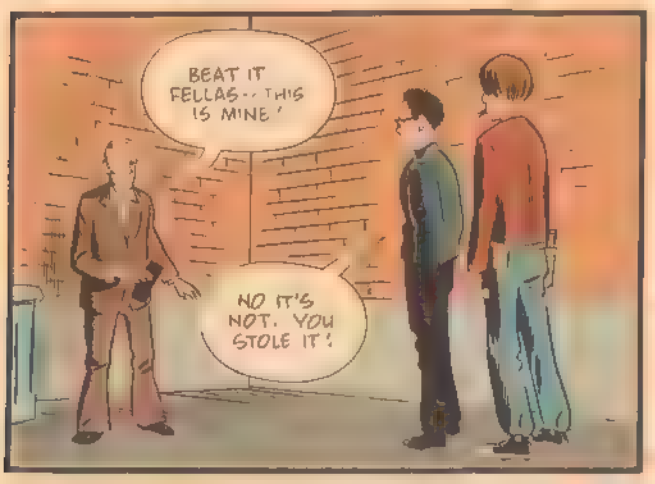
THE FURTHER ADVENTURES OF THE DEATH-RAY


THIS ISN'T WORKING.


SHH!


THIS MIGHT BE OUR GUY


WHAT THE FUCK ARE YOU DOING, EXACTLY?


BEAT IT FELLAS.. THIS IS MINE!
NO IT'S NOT. YOU STOLE IT!

NO, I DIDN'T. I FOUND IT FAIR AND SQUARE! FINDERS KEEPERS!

YOU'RE A FUCKING CRIMINAL.

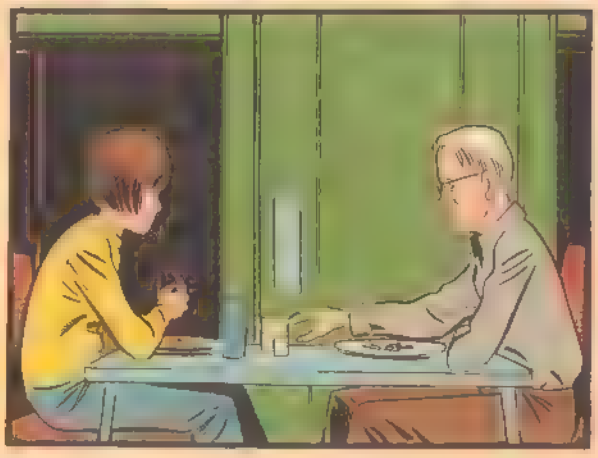
NO I'M NOT! PLEASE FELLAS. I NEED THAT MONEY!

LISTEN, ASSHOLE
C'MON, LET'S FORGET THE WHOLE THING.. GIVE ME THE WALLET.

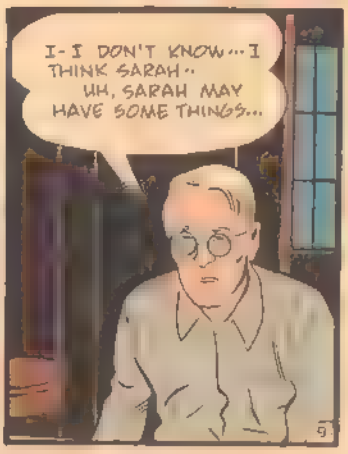
PLEASE! YOU DON'T UNDERSTAND!

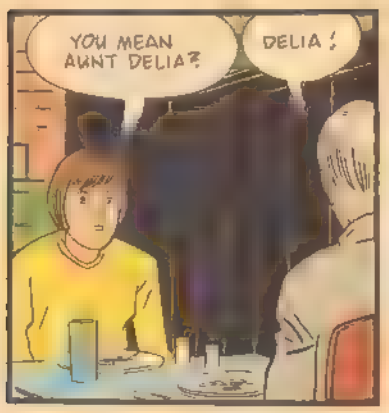
GO THE FUCK AWAY!
I REALLY NEED THAT MONEY, FELLAS

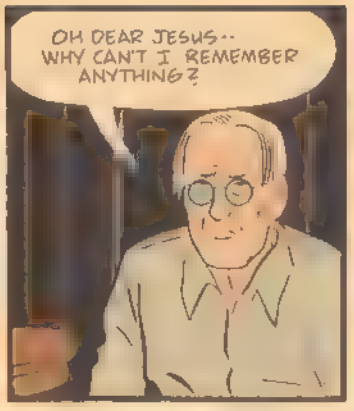
FUCK!

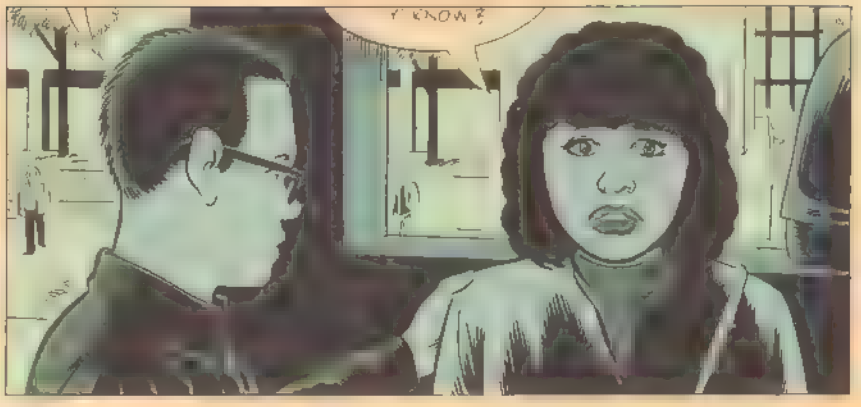


PAPPY, WHAT EVER HAPPENED TO ALL MY DAD'S STUFF?


I-I DON'T KNOW... I THINK SARAH.. UH, SARAH MAY HAVE SOME THINGS...

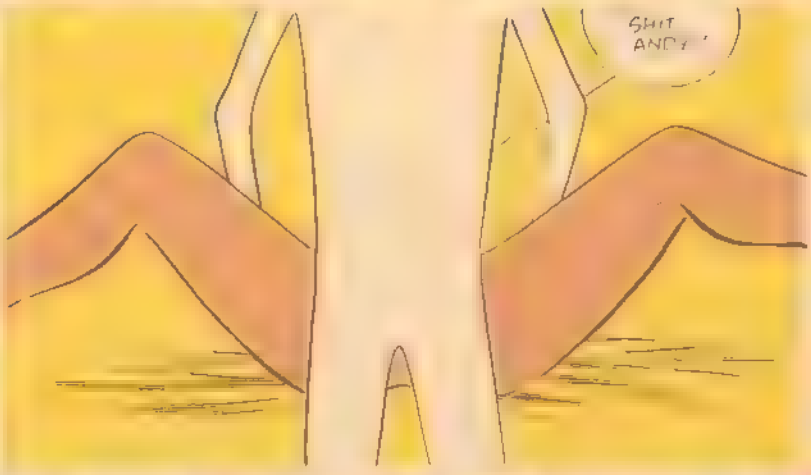

YOU MEAN AUNT DELIA?
DELIA!

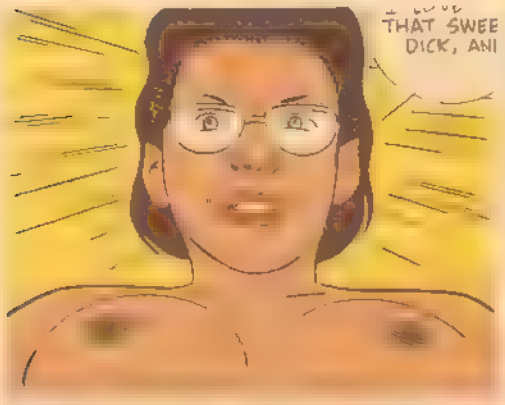

OH DEAR JESUS.. WHY CAN'T I REMEMBER ANYTHING?

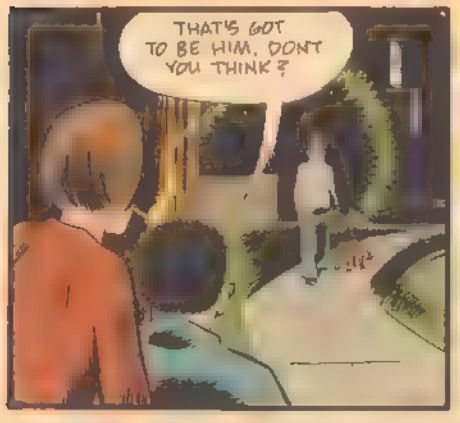

Y'KNOW?

SHE'S REALLY A GOOD KID.. IT'S TOO BAD.
WHAT?
IT'S JUST.. SHE WAS TELLING ME HOW HER DAD LIKES TO BEAT ON HER AND SHIT, Y'KNOW?

ANYWAY, I TOLD HER WE'D TAKE CARE OF IT


SHIT AND


THAT SWEE DICK, ANI


THAT'S GOT TO BE HIM, DON'T YOU THINK?

HEY!

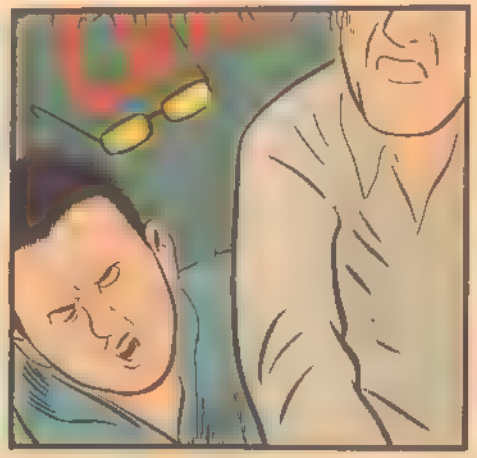
HEY ARE YOU JANET MASTRO SERIO'S FATHER?

WHAT DO YOU WANT?
WE KNOW ALL ABOUT YOU, ASSHOLE.

IS IT FUN TO HIT A DEFENSELESS LITTLE GIRL?

LOOK, WHAT IS THIS?

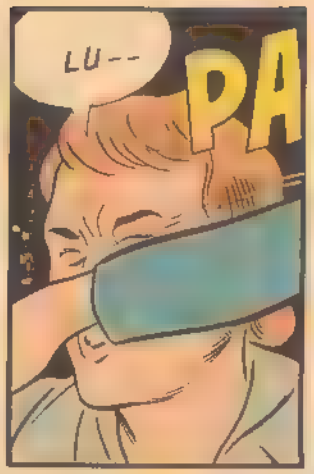
IT'S JUSTICE, ASSHOLE!

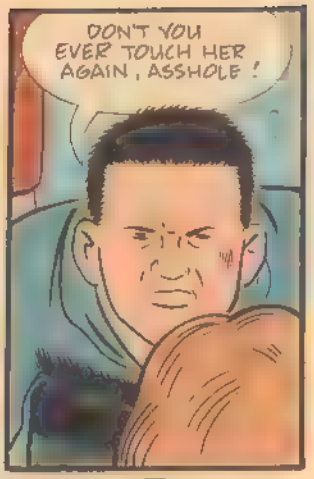


NOW LOOK, I DON'T

LUCY!

YOU STUPID BASTARD-- DON'T LET HER GET AWAY!

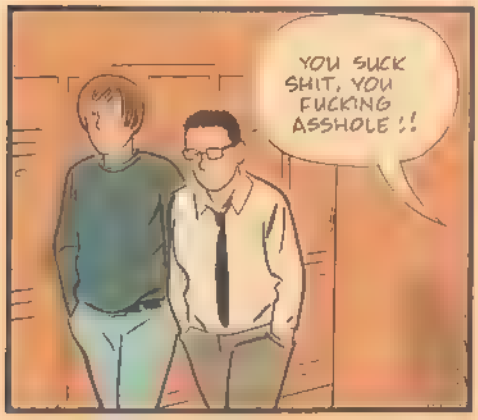

LU--
PA


DON'T YOU EVER TOUCH HER AGAIN, ASSHOLE!

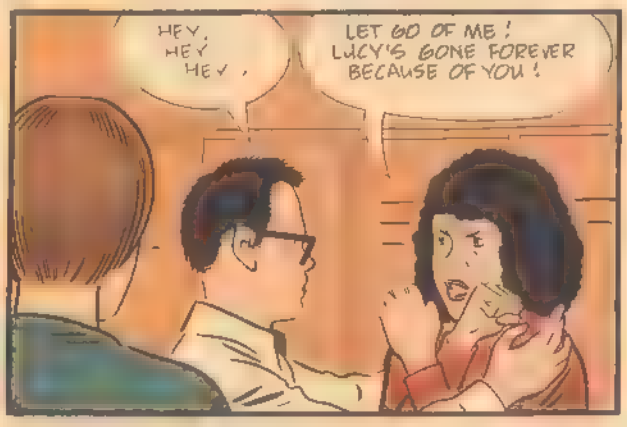
STOOB KNOWS WE FUCKED UP HIS CAR!

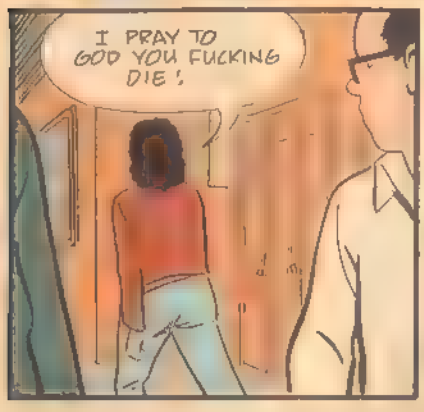
YOU DIDN'T DO IT!
HEY I'M NOT SICKING YOU WITH THE RAP.

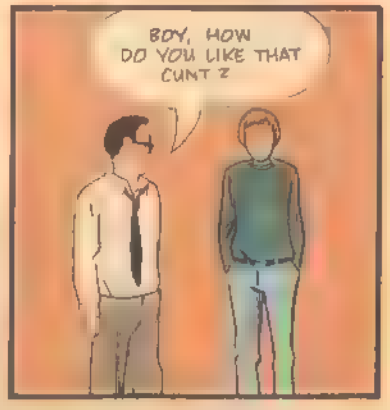
ALL I'M SAYING IS, THINGS COULD GET UGLY.


YOU SUCK SHIT, YOU FUCKING ASSHOLE!!

WHAT THE FUCK IS WRONG WITH YOU?


HEY, HEY HEY.
LET GO OF ME! LUCY'S GONE FOREVER BECAUSE OF YOU!


I PRAY TO GOD YOU FUCKING DIE!

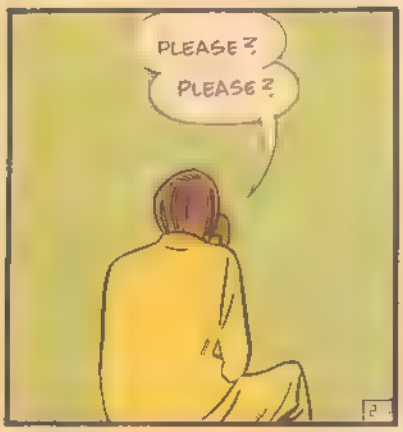

BOY, HOW DO YOU LIKE THAT CUNT?

EVERYONE'S AGAINST US, ANDY... THEY KNOW THERE'S SOMETHING DIFFERENT ABOUT YOU. IF THEY EVER LEARNED YOUR SECRET, THEY'D KILL YOU!

... SO PAPPY THOUGHT YOU MIGHT HAVE SOME OF MY DAD'S OLD STUFF

REALLY? ARE YOU SURE? NOT EVEN LIKE A LITTLE BOX OR ANYTHING?

I CAN'T WAIT UNTIL I'M EIGHTEEN. AUNT DELIA CAN'T YOU PLEASE JUST SEND IT NOW?

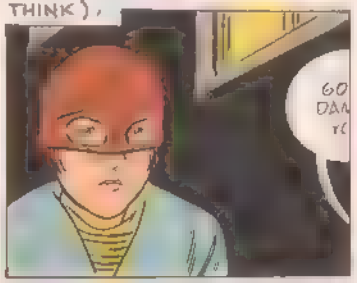

PLEASE?
PLEASE?

# ON PATROL

AUNT DELIA IS MY MOM'S SISTER WHO LIVES IN CONNECTICUT.

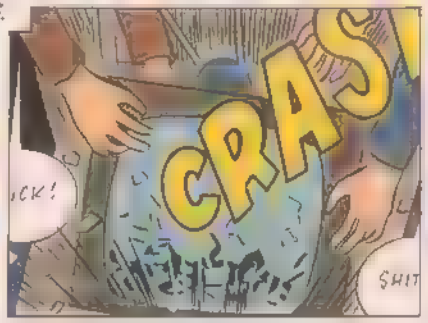
AFTER DAD DIED I WAS SUPPOSED TO GO LIVE WITH HER, BUT LUCKILY I WAS ABLE TO SCAM THE CHILD PSYCHOLOGIST INTO LETTING ME STAY AT HOME WITH PAPPY

ANYWAY, SHE SAID THE PACKAGE WAS IN THE MAIL...YEAH. AND I WON'T COME IN YOUR MOUTH (THAT'S AN OLD GEORGE CARLIN JOKE, I THINK).

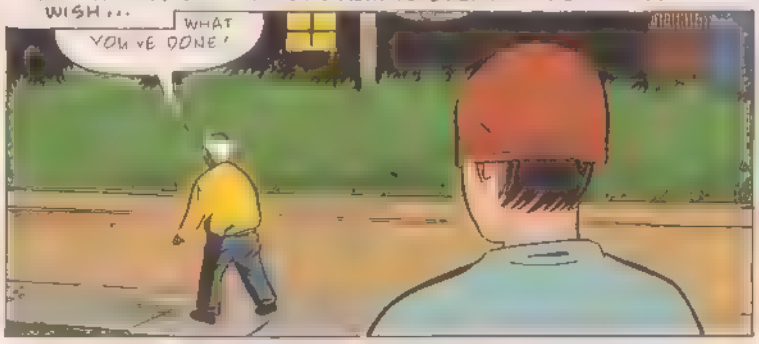


I LIKED AUNT DELIA OKAY, EXCEPT SHE ALWAYS KIND OF MADE ME FEEL LIKE A PATHETIC TURD. SHE REALLY DID NOT GET ME AT ALL.

STILL, I HAVE TO SAY I THINK I COME FROM A PRETTY GREAT FAMILY. I MEAN, JUST THINK ABOUT WHAT MY DAD DID FOR ME. WHAT DAD HAS EVER DONE ANYTHING LIKE THAT BEFORE?

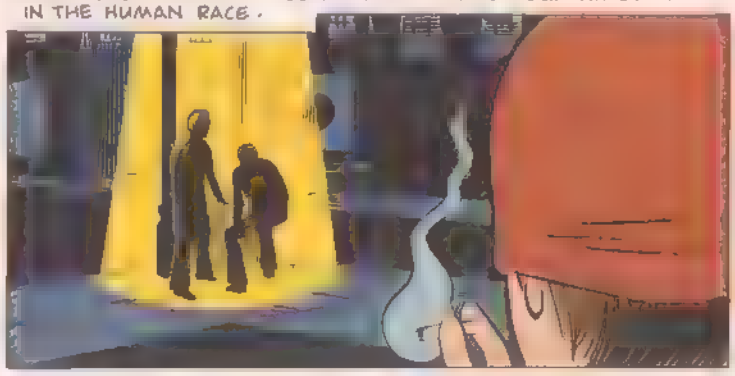



AND PAPPY, TOO HE WAS ALWAYS GREAT TO ME ... I JUST WISH...



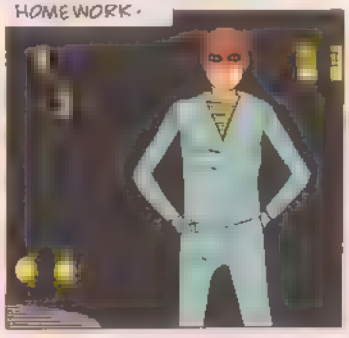

I'VE BEEN THINKING A LOT LATELY ABOUT HOW MUCH STUFF WE TAKE FOR GRANTED. WE'RE SO LUCKY TO LIVE IN THE MODERN WORLD. I MEAN, IF YOU WERE BORN IN UNCIVILIZED TIMES, YOU'D SPEND ALL DAY LOOKING FOR GRUBS AND THEN YOU'D DIE IN PAIN AT AGE TWENTY

REALLY, WE SHOULD ALL BE SO THANKFUL FOR OUR ANCESTORS IN THE HUMAN RACE.

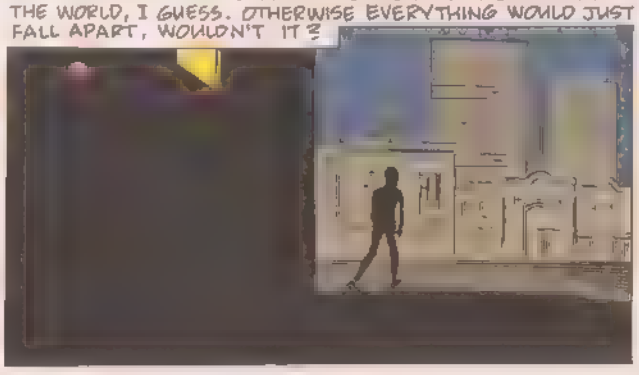


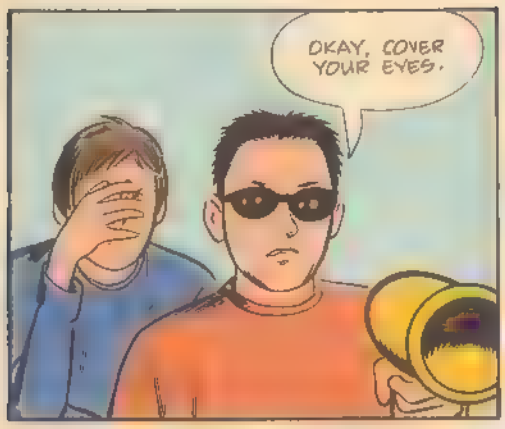
THAT'S WHY I FEEL I HAVE TO DO MY PART, HOWEVER SMALL, TO HELP OUT HUMANITY, OR AT LEAST THE GOOD, DECENT MEMBERS OF SOCIETY.

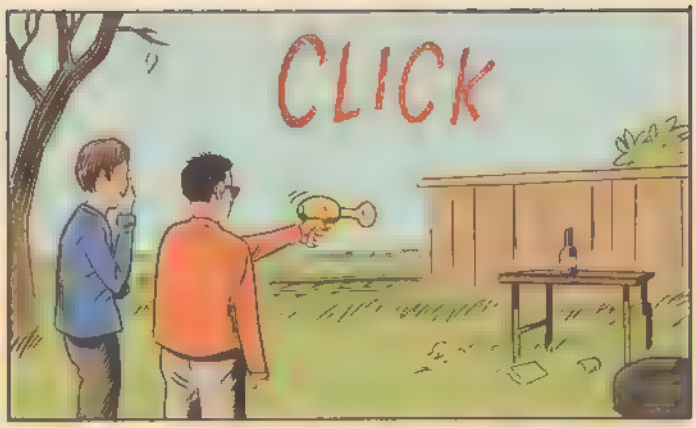
IT'S NOT EASY, THOUGH... AND TO BE HONEST, A LOT OF THE TIME IT FEELS KIND OF LIKE HOMEWORK.

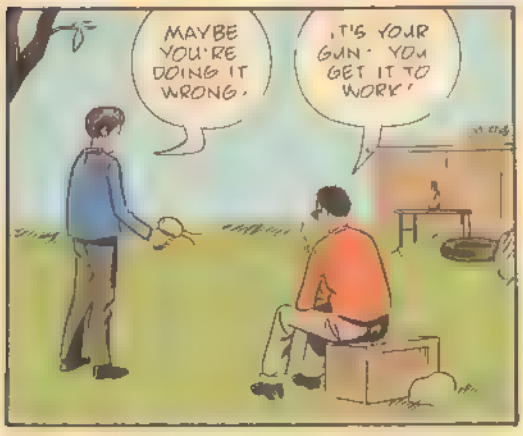


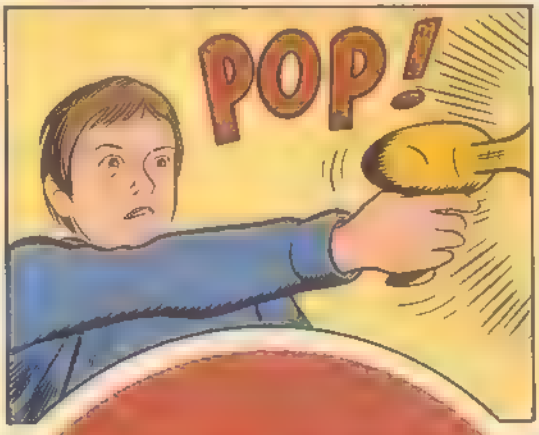
BUT SOMEBODY HAS TO IMPOSE SOME KIND OF STRUCTURE ON THE WORLD, I GUESS. OTHERWISE EVERYTHING WOULD JUST FALL APART, WOULDN'T IT?

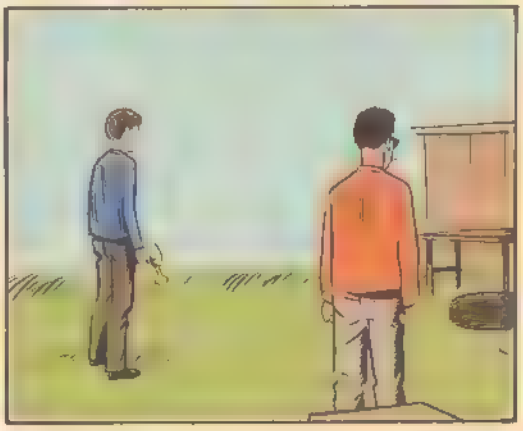




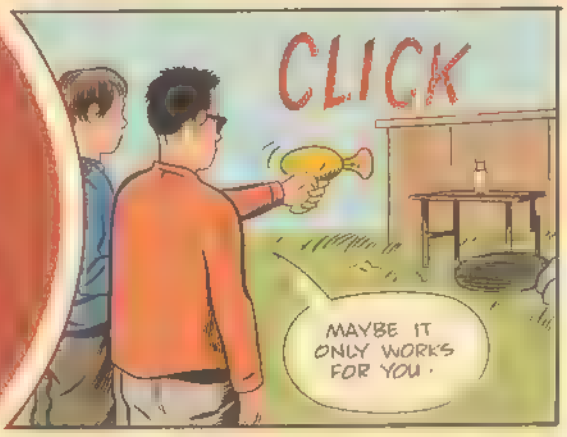



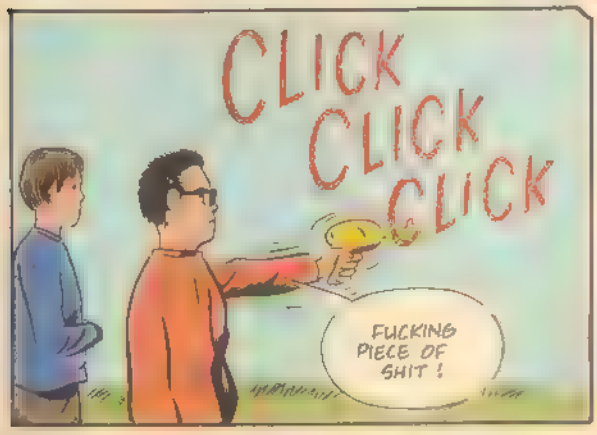


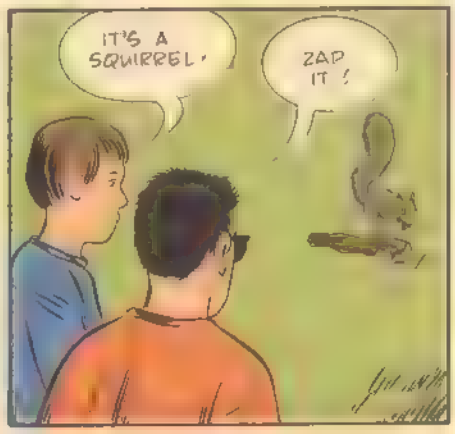



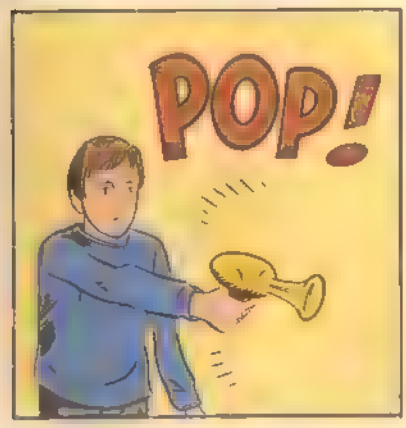



# TARGET PRACTICE

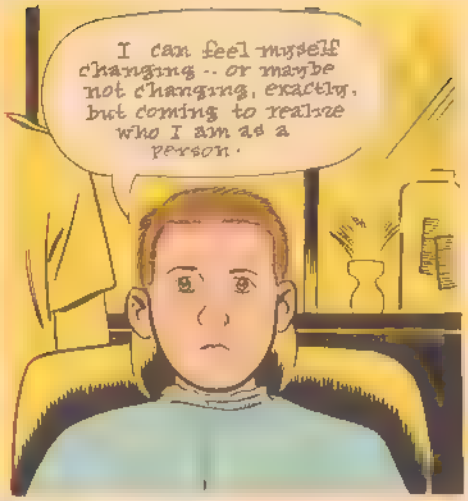


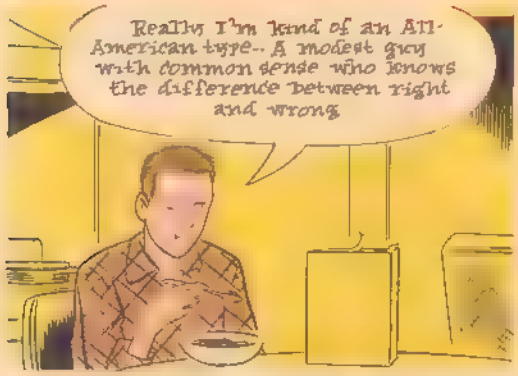



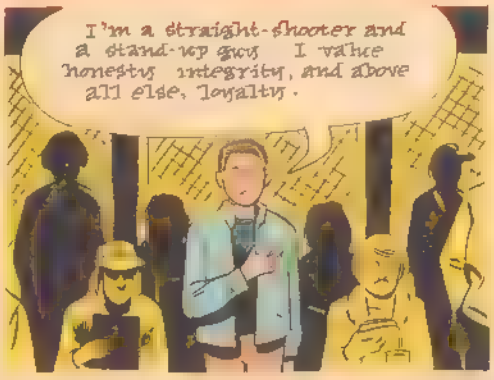


# SONNY

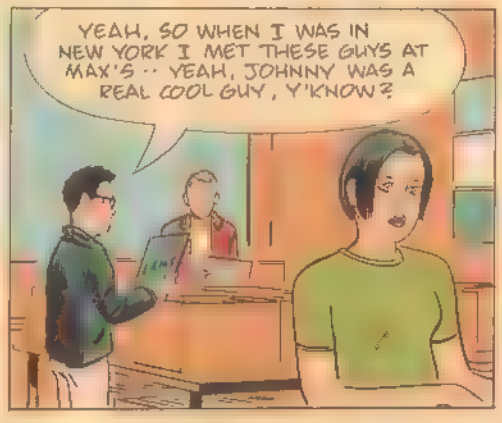

I can feel myself changing -- or maybe not changing, exactly, but coming to realize who I am as a person.


Really I'm kind of an All-American type-- A modest guy with common sense who knows the difference between right and wrong


I'm a straight-shooter and a stand-up guy I value honesty integrity, and above all else, loyalty.

SO OBVIOUSLY YOU SHOULDN'T TELL ANYONE ABOUT THE GUN, OKAY?

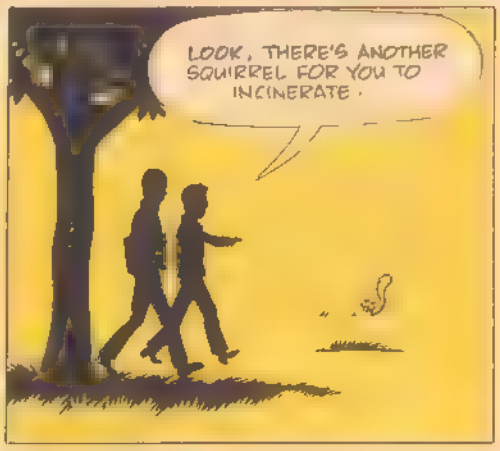
HOLY SH-T CHECK IT OUT.

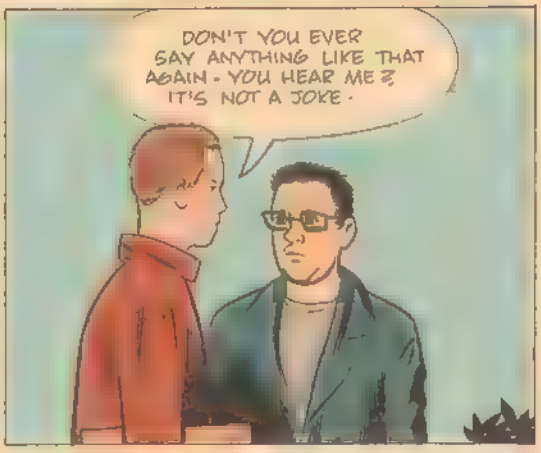

YEAH, SO WHEN I WAS IN NEW YORK I MET THESE GUYS AT MAX'S -- YEAH, JOHNNY WAS A REAL COOL GUY, Y'KNOW?

HE'S NOT JUST SOME ASSHOLE ROCK STAR, HE'S LIKE A TOTALLY REGULAR GUY.
PATRIOTIC MARCHES

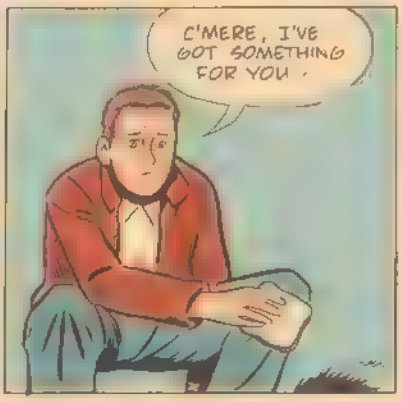
YEAH, HE TOLD ME I COULD COME BACKSTAGE ANY TIME THEY'RE IN TOWN, AND WHEN I GET MY BAND TOGETHER

OF COURSE I WON'T TELL ANYBODY ABOUT THE GUN.

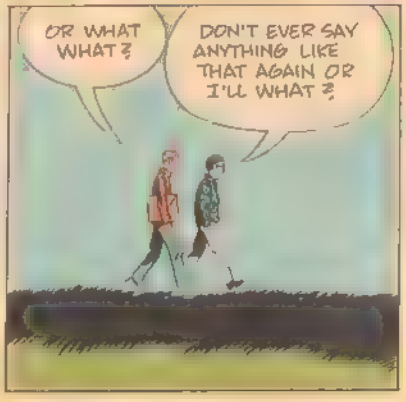

LOOK, THERE'S ANOTHER SQUIRREL FOR YOU TO INCINERATE.

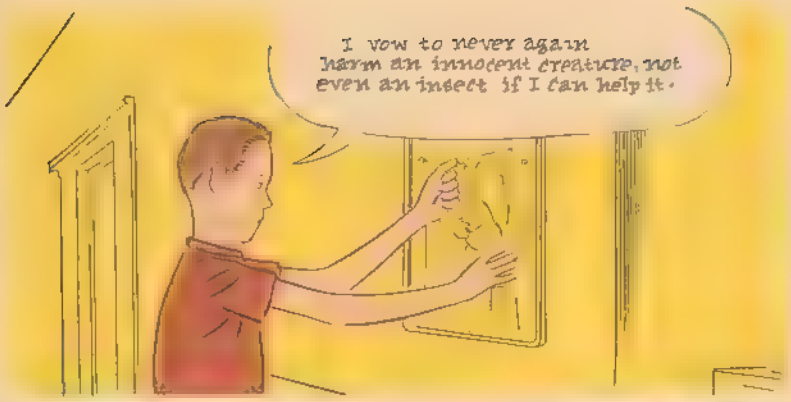

DON'T YOU EVER SAY ANYTHING LIKE THAT AGAIN - YOU HEAR ME? IT'S NOT A JOKE.

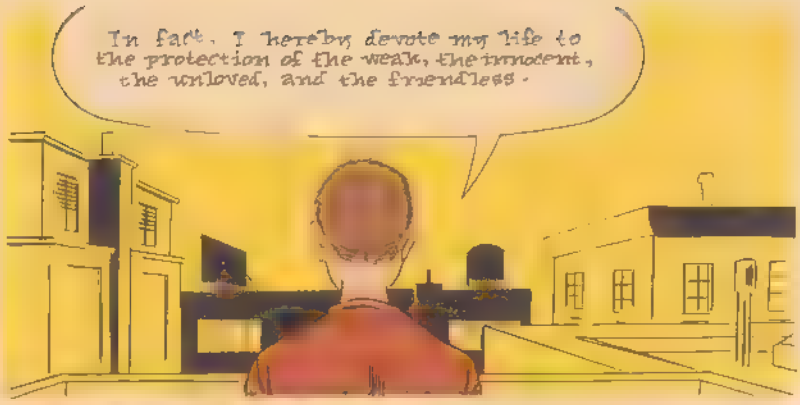
HERE BOY..
C'MERE


C'MERE, I'VE GOT SOMETHING FOR YOU.

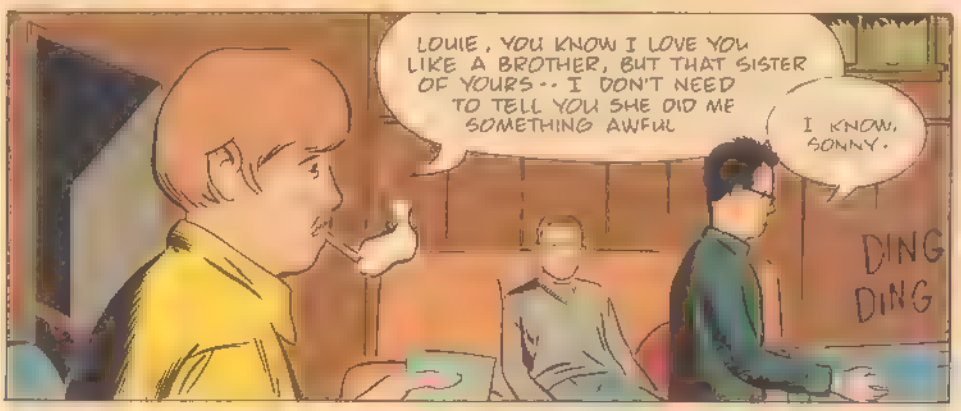
OR WHAT?


OR WHAT WHAT?
DON'T EVER SAY ANYTHING LIKE THAT AGAIN OR I'LL WHAT?


I vow to never again harm an innocent creature, not even an insect if I can help it.


In fact, I hereby devote my life to the protection of the weak, the innocent, the unloved, and the friendless.

YOU BOYS ARE TOO YOUNG TO KNOW ABOUT REAL PAIN ... I DON'T CARE IF YOU LOSE YOUR EYES, OR YOUR ARM, OR YOUR GODDAMN HEAD-- THERE'S NO PAIN LIKE HEARTACHE.

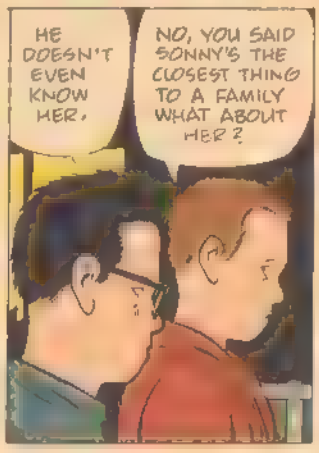

LOUIE, YOU KNOW I LOVE YOU LIKE A BROTHER, BUT THAT SISTER OF YOURS -- I DON'T NEED TO TELL YOU SHE DID ME SOMETHING AWFUL
I KNOW, SONNY.
DING DING

THAT SON OF A BITCH -- HE STOLE HER AWAY WITH HIS LIES! I WOULDN'T BE SURPRISED IF HE'S GOT HER ON DRUGS, LOUIE!
DING

I'LL TELL YOU ONE THING I KNOW FOR SURE -- I'LL NEVER STOP LOVING THAT GIRL 'TIL THE DAY I DIE.

SONNY'S ALL RIGHT WITH ME, MAN... HE'S THE CLOSEST THING TO REAL FAMILY I'VE GOT!
BUT HE'S NOT GOING OUT WITH YOUR SISTER ANY MORE, IS HE?

THE STUPID BITCH!
WHAT ABOUT YOUR OTHER SISTER IN NEW YORK?


HE DOESN'T EVEN KNOW HER.
NO, YOU SAID SONNY'S THE CLOSEST THING TO A FAMILY WHAT ABOUT HER?

GIVE ME A BREAK -- SHE'S A FUCKING DYKE

HEY!
LOOK WHO IT IS!

THAT'S HER, ISN'T IT? IT'S LUCY!
GOD, SHE'S ALL FREAKED OUT.

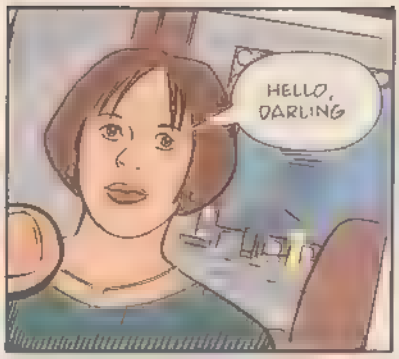
YEAH, IT'S DEFINITELY HER.
WOW JANET'S GONNA LOVE YOU NOW.

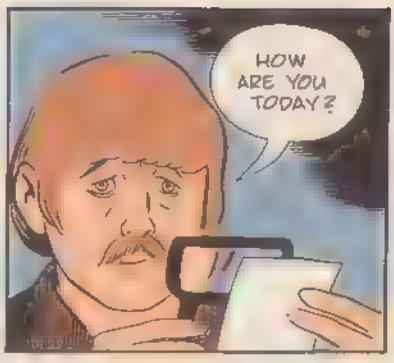
FUCK JANET I'M KEEPING HER FOR MYSELF!

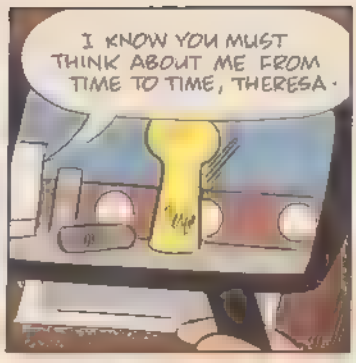
# Andy's Dream

There was this tree with these big white berries growing on it, and as soon as a person ate one they would start to disappear
This process seemed to be both physically painful and super terrifying
I was so scared of the tree which I guess was supposed to be in my backyard, that I didn't even want to go outside
they came back even stronger
I went to make a break for it, but outside the door was pure whiteness. It filled up the room and blanked it out. I've never been so scared
I woke up totally drenched. No matter what I did I couldn't get away from the nothingness
Later that night I had another dream. In this one I was having sex with my housekeeper.
It's funny, but I never even see you naked in my dreams

SONNY
AND
THERESA


HELLO, DARLING


HOW ARE YOU TODAY?


I KNOW YOU MUST THINK ABOUT ME FROM TIME TO TIME, THERESA.

HELL, I THINK ABOUT YOU ALL DAY LONG

AND YOU KNOW I'LL DO WHATEVER IT TAKES TO MAKE THINGS WORK, THERESA.
SNIFF

♫ THE-RE-SA ♫

THER EEE SA ♫

THERESA, YOU INHUMAN BITCH!
CONK

YOU LOVE ME, YOU BITCH! I KNOW FOR A FACT THAT YOU LOVE ME!

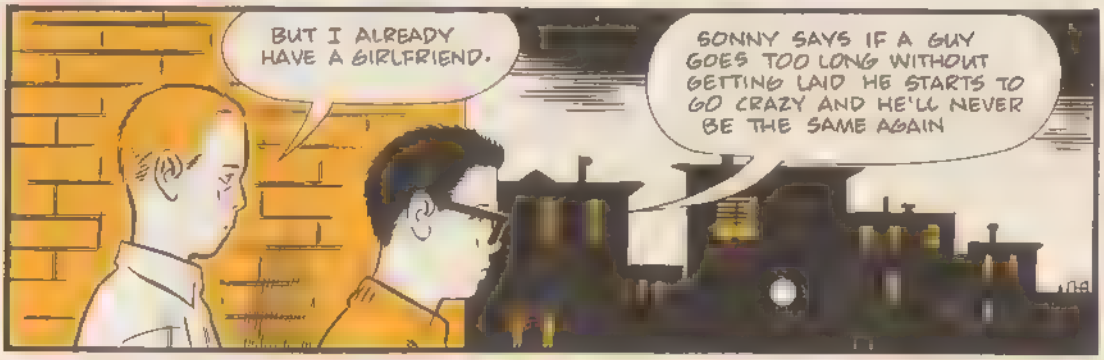
YOU ASSHOLE! DON'T YOU NEVER SAY NOTHING BAD ABOUT HER!
SLAP!

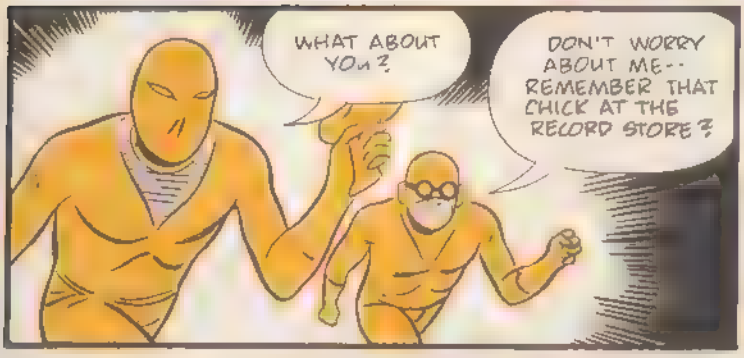
♫ THE-RE-SA ♫

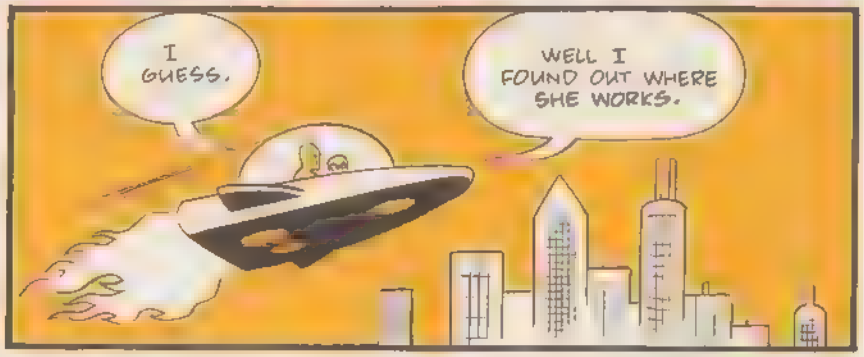
I KNOW WE WERE MEANT TO BE TOGETHER, THERESA.
SNIFF

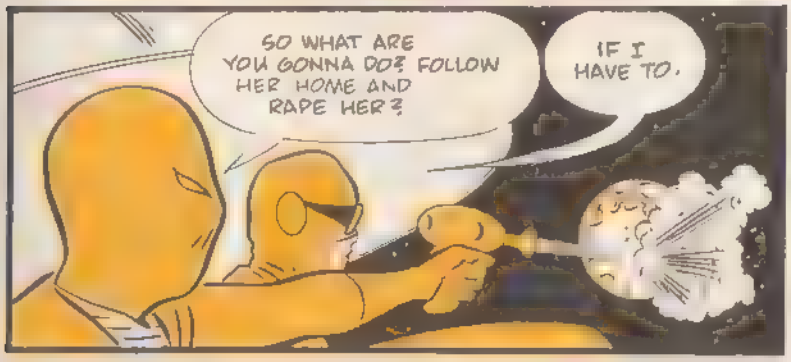
IF I DIDN'T KNOW THAT, I WOULDN'T BOTHER LIVING ANYMORE.

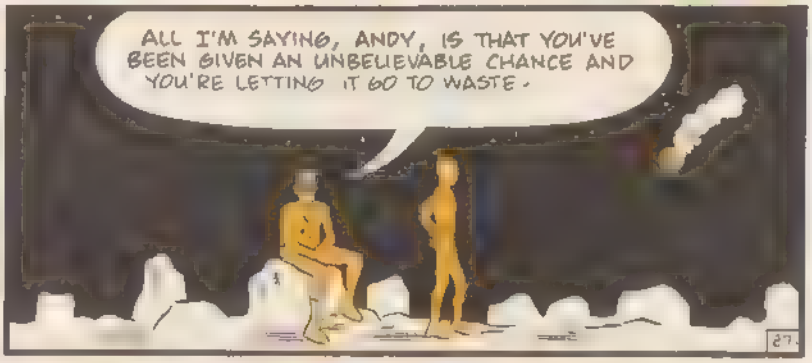
THE
AND

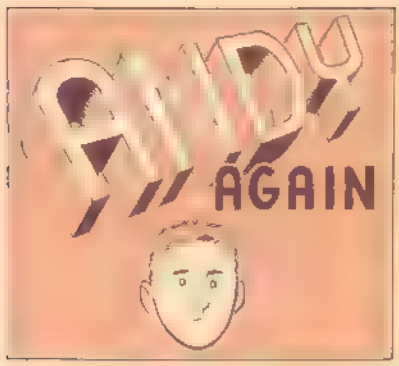

BUT I ALREADY HAVE A GIRLFRIEND.
SONNY SAYS IF A GUY GOES TOO LONG WITHOUT GETTING LAID HE STARTS TO GO CRAZY AND HE'LL NEVER BE THE SAME AGAIN

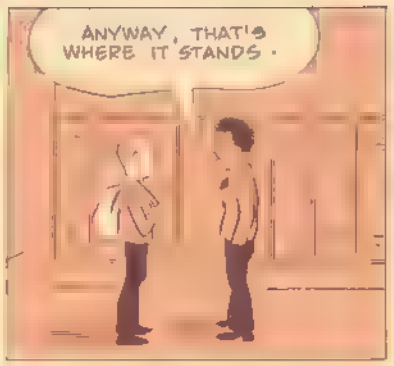

WHAT ABOUT YOU?
DON'T WORRY ABOUT ME.. REMEMBER THAT CHICK AT THE RECORD STORE?


I GUESS.
WELL I FOUND OUT WHERE SHE WORKS.

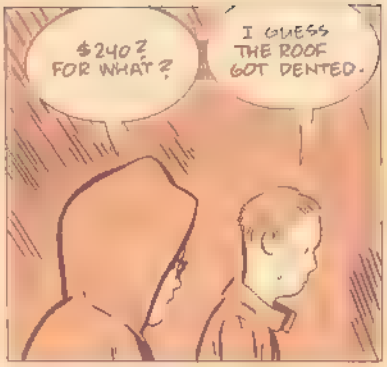

SO WHAT ARE YOU GONNA DO? FOLLOW HER HOME AND RAPE HER?
IF I HAVE TO.


ALL I'M SAYING, ANDY, IS THAT YOU'VE BEEN GIVEN AN UNBELIEVABLE CHANCE AND YOU'RE LETTING IT GO TO WASTE.

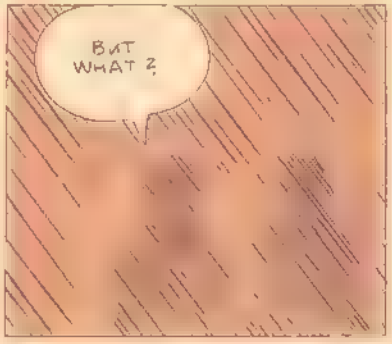

ANDY
AGAIN


ANYWAY, THAT'S WHERE IT STANDS.

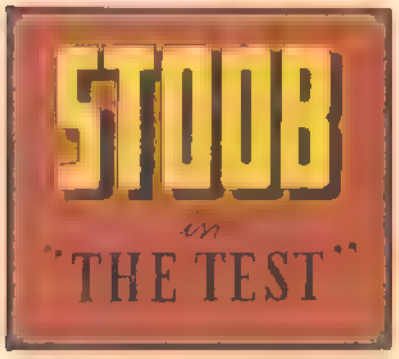
UNLESS WE GET THE ENTIRE $240 BY FRIDAY WE WILL TAKE IT OUT IN PAIN.

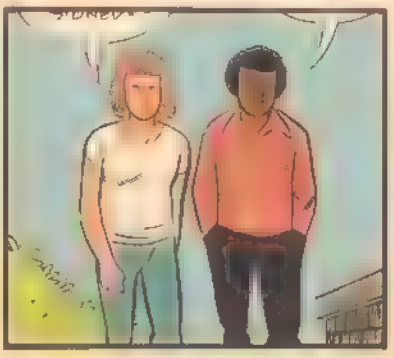

$240? FOR WHAT?
I GUESS THE ROOF GOT DENTED.

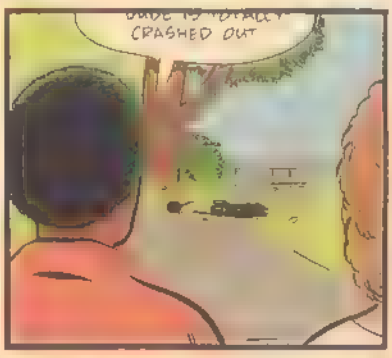
YOU'RE NOT PAYING SHIT.
I KNOW, BUT.

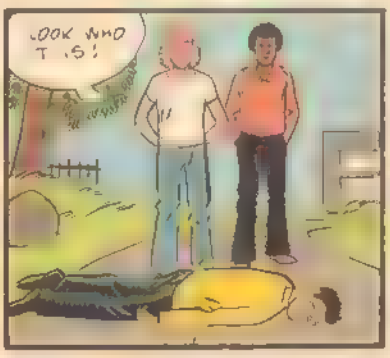

BUT WHAT?

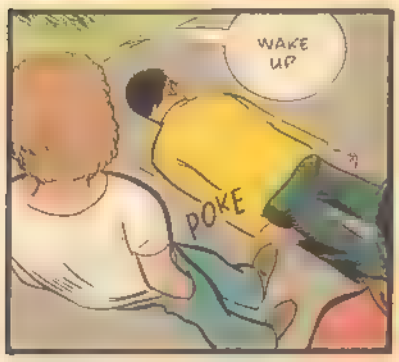
I THINK IT'S TIME TO TAKE THIS TO THE NEXT LEVEL!
RIGHT AGAIN, OLD CHUM!

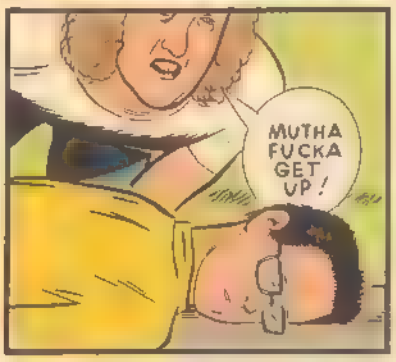

STOOB
in
"THE TEST"

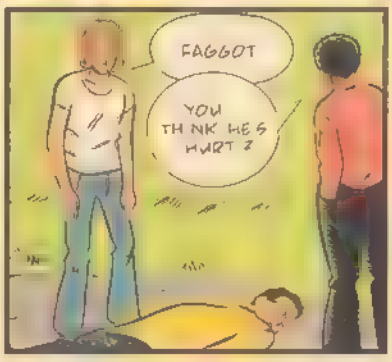


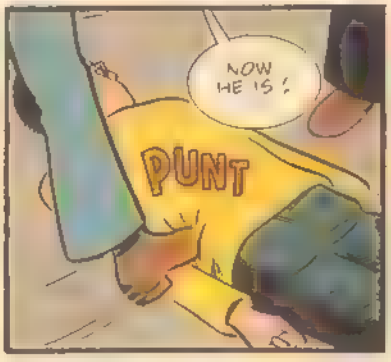

CRASHED OUT


LOOK WHO IT IS!

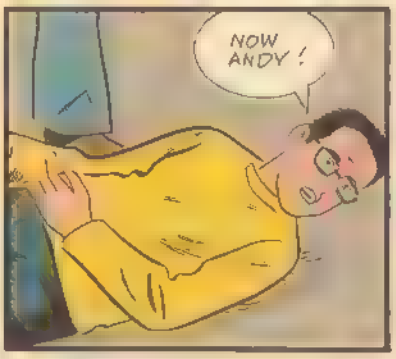

WAKE UP
POKE

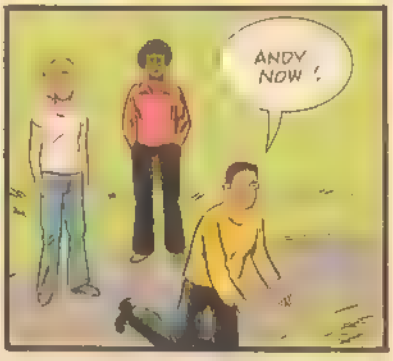

MUTHA FUCKA GET UP!


FAGGOT
YOU THINK HE'S HURT?


NOW HE IS!
PUNT

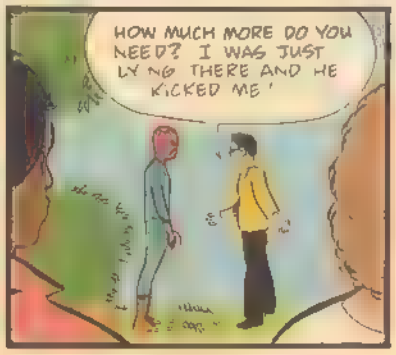
OHH!
THUD!

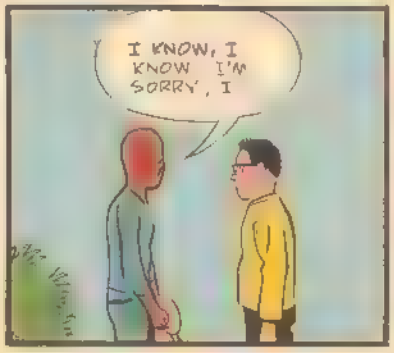

NOW ANDY!

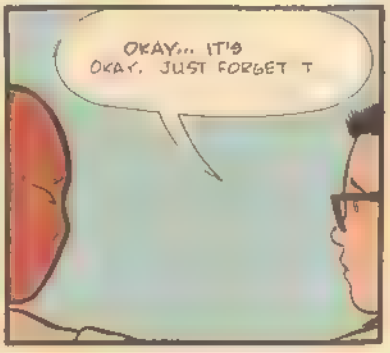

ANDY NOW!

COME ON!

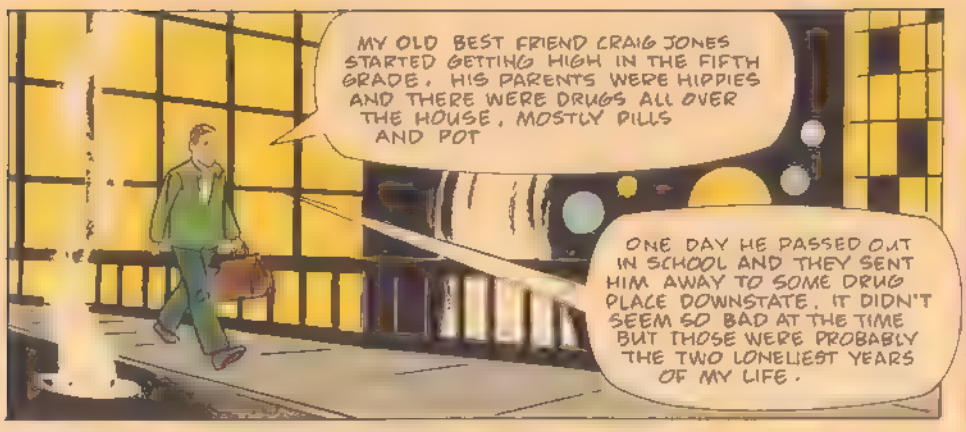
JESUS, ANDY.

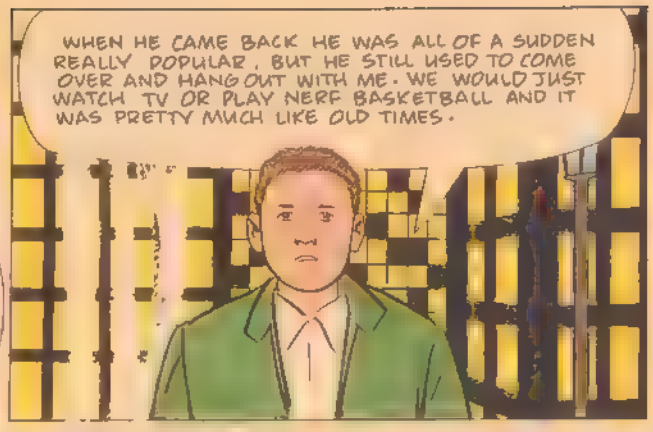

HOW MUCH MORE DO YOU NEED? I WAS JUST LYING THERE AND HE KICKED ME!

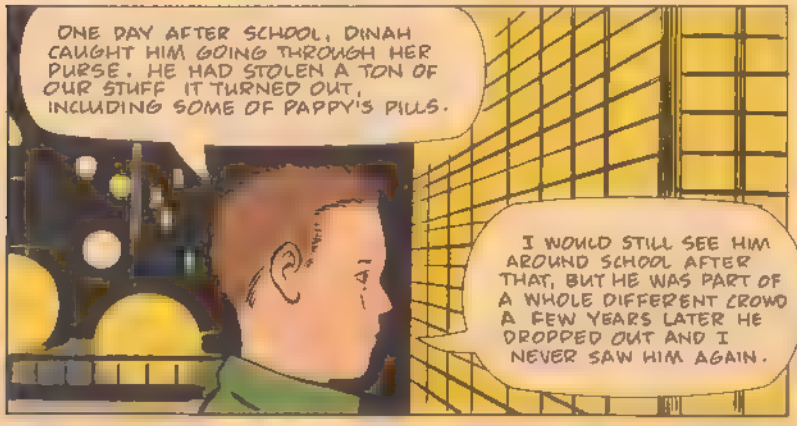

I KNOW, I KNOW. I'M SORRY, I

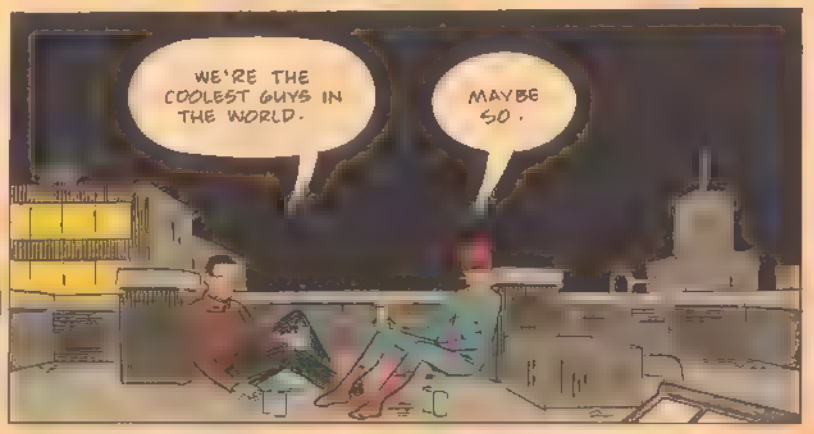

OKAY... IT'S OKAY. JUST FORGET IT

LOUIE IS LIKE A BROTHER TO ME, ANDY.
I CAN'T TELL YOU HOW MUCH I VALUE HIS FRIENDSHIP.
AND ANDY, I CAN TELL THAT YOU AND I ARE GONNA BE GREAT FRIENDS, TOO.
YOU PROBABLY KNOW THAT LOUIE'S SISTER AND I WENT TOGETHER FOR QUITE SOME TIME.
THIS WHOLE SITUATION WITH HER NEW BOYFRIEND- IT'S GOT ME WORRIED SICK, ANDY. SLOWLY BUT SURELY HE'S KILLING THAT GIRL!
I JUST WISH TO GOD THERE WAS SOMETHING WE COULD DO.
SONNY'S LAMENT
WENTY-EIGHT DOLLARS N BUCKET NUMBER SIX, LUS A SCHWINN BICYCLE AND
GOD DAMN IT!
SOB
OH LORD...
ANDY, YOU GO WASH YOUR HANDS!
WHAT'S WRONG?
NOTHING'S WRONG, ANDY
IT'S MY DAUGHTER EVELYN. WE'VE BEEN HAVING SOME TROUBLE WITH HER IS ALL.
ANDY..
DON'T YOU EVER TAKE NO DRUGS, ANDY


MY OLD BEST FRIEND CRAIG JONES STARTED GETTING HIGH IN THE FIFTH GRADE. HIS PARENTS WERE HIPPIES AND THERE WERE DRUGS ALL OVER THE HOUSE, MOSTLY PILLS AND POT
ONE DAY HE PASSED OUT IN SCHOOL AND THEY SENT HIM AWAY TO SOME DRUG PLACE DOWNSTATE. IT DIDN'T SEEM SO BAD AT THE TIME BUT THOSE WERE PROBABLY THE TWO LONELIEST YEARS OF MY LIFE.


WHEN HE CAME BACK HE WAS ALL OF A SUDDEN REALLY POPULAR, BUT HE STILL USED TO COME OVER AND HANG OUT WITH ME. WE WOULD JUST WATCH TV OR PLAY NERF BASKETBALL AND IT WAS PRETTY MUCH LIKE OLD TIMES.


ONE DAY AFTER SCHOOL, DINAH CAUGHT HIM GOING THROUGH HER PURSE. HE HAD STOLEN A TON OF OUR STUFF IT TURNED OUT, INCLUDING SOME OF PAPPY'S PILLS.
I WOULD STILL SEE HIM AROUND SCHOOL AFTER THAT, BUT HE WAS PART OF A WHOLE DIFFERENT CROWD A FEW YEARS LATER HE DROPPED OUT AND I NEVER SAW HIM AGAIN.


WE'RE THE COOLEST GUYS IN THE WORLD.
MAYBE SO.

IT'S NOT AN OPINION, IT'S A FACT.

DID YOU TELL SONNY ABOUT THE GUN?

NO WAY. I'M TOTALLY LOYAL TO YOU, ANDY.

NO WAY IN HELL.

AND ANYWAY, WE'RE NOT DOING IT FOR SONNY. WE'RE DOING IT FOR AMERICA!

Y'KNOW?

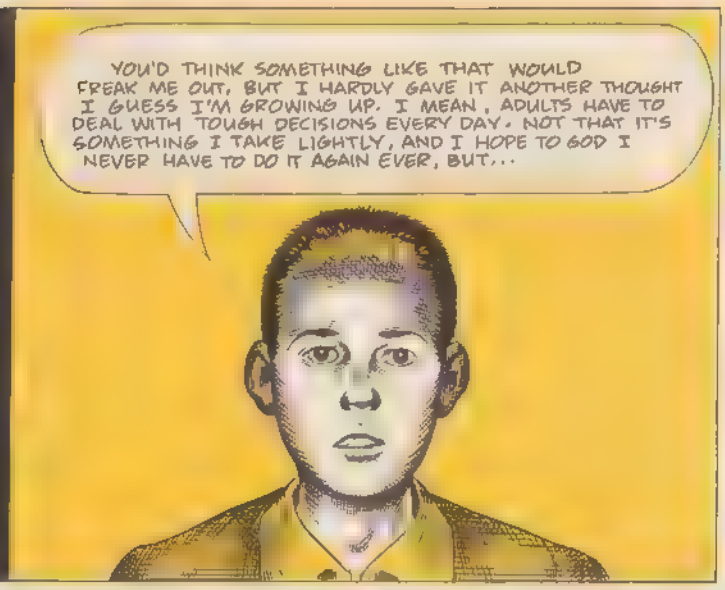
NOBODY WILL EVER KNOW A THING, ANDY.

FOR ALL THEY KNOW, HE JUST MOVED AWAY.

FOR ALL THEY KNOW, HE JUST WENT ON VACATION. THEY'LL NEVER--

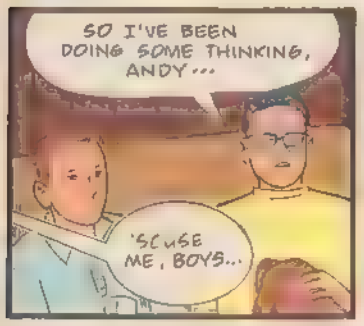
POP

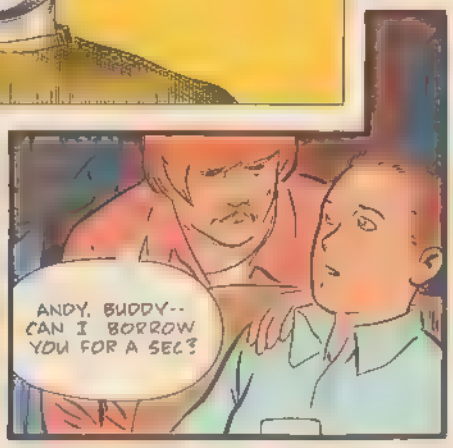
THE UNTHINKABLE
FEETS DON'T FAIL ME NOW!


YOU'D THINK SOMETHING LIKE THAT WOULD FREAK ME OUT, BUT I HARDLY GAVE IT ANOTHER THOUGHT I GUESS I'M GROWING UP. I MEAN, ADULTS HAVE TO DEAL WITH TOUGH DECISIONS EVERY DAY. NOT THAT IT'S SOMETHING I TAKE LIGHTLY, AND I HOPE TO GOD I NEVER HAVE TO DO IT AGAIN EVER, BUT...

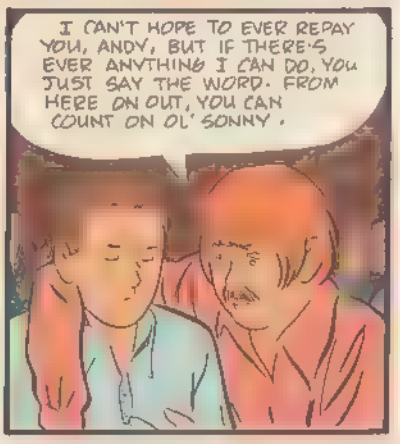
I DIDN'T THINK HE HAD IT IN HIM. I WAS JUST-- I DON'T KNOW, I JUST DIDN'T EXPECT IT. I MEAN, HE WAS MORE UPSET ABOUT THE CHIPMUNK! I GUESS I SHOULD BE GLAD HE'S MY FRIEND, BUT JESUS CHRIST, ANDY!

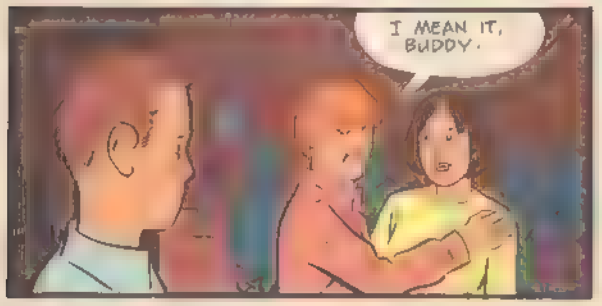
THANKS, DUDE


SO I'VE BEEN DOING SOME THINKING, ANDY...
'SCUSE ME, BOYS...

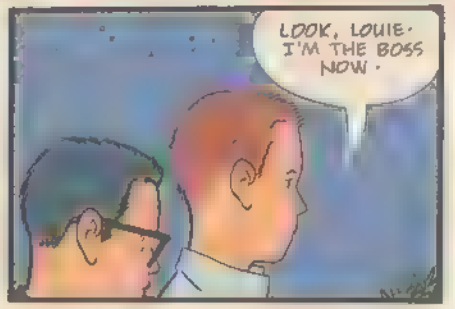

ANDY, BUDDY-- CAN I BORROW YOU FOR A SEC?

ANDY, I DON'T KNOW THE WHOLE STORY -- I'M PRETTY SURE I DON'T WANT TO KNOW...


I CAN'T HOPE TO EVER REPAY YOU, ANDY, BUT IF THERE'S EVER ANYTHING I CAN DO, YOU JUST SAY THE WORD. FROM HERE ON OUT, YOU CAN COUNT ON OL' SONNY.

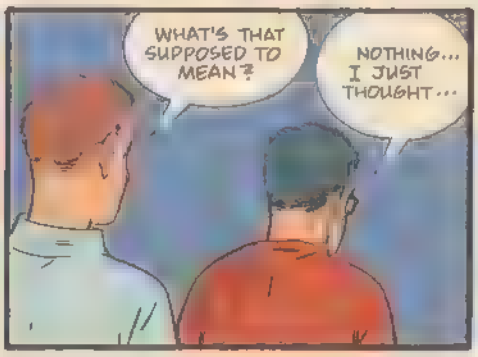

I MEAN IT, BUDDY.

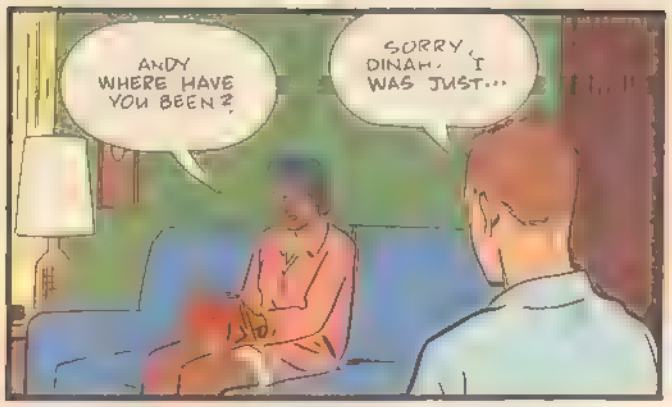
SO I THINK WE SHOULD STASH THE GUN SOMEWHERE... Y'KNOW, JUST FOR A WHILE UNTIL WE FIGURE OUT WHAT WE'RE DOING.

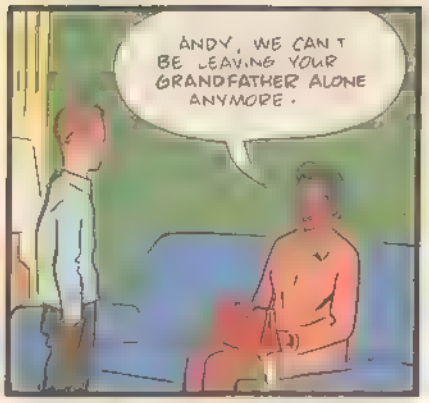

LOOK, LOUIE. I'M THE BOSS NOW.

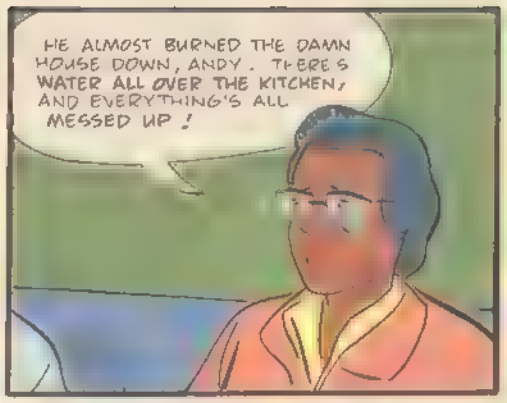
OH, OKAY ANDY WHAT EVER YOU SAY.

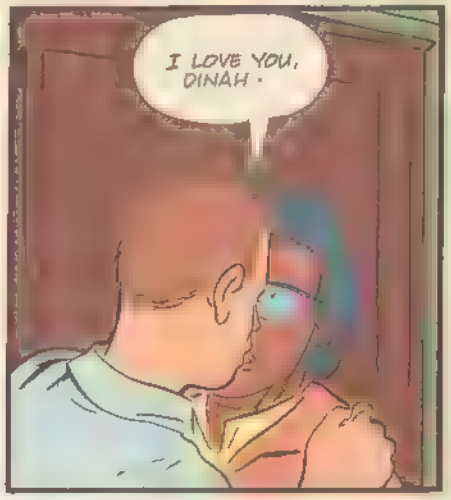
SO WHO ARE YOU GONNA KILL NEXT?


WHAT'S THAT SUPPOSED TO MEAN?
NOTHING... I JUST THOUGHT...

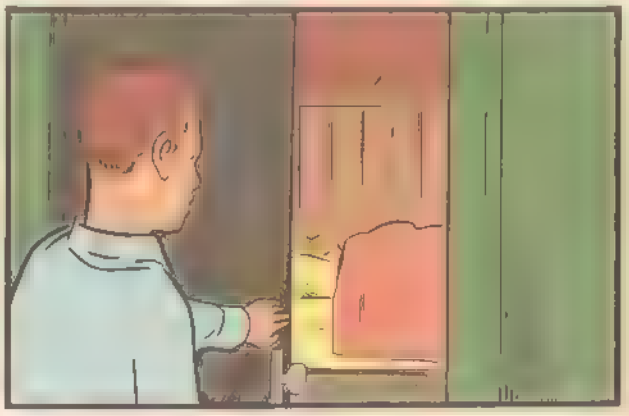


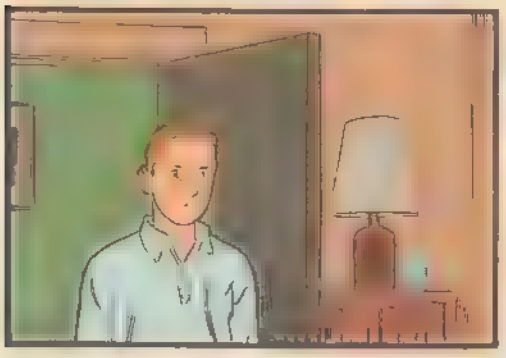





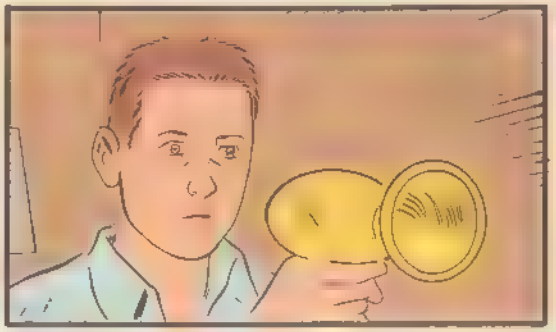
A WEEK AFTER WE TOOK CARE OF THERESA'S BOYFREND, LOUIE CALLED ME UP AND SAID, "YOU KNOW, C.J. WAS A FUCKING ASSHOLE, BUT HE DIDN'T DESERVE TO DIE YOU DIDN'T EVEN KNOW THE GUY." THIS REALLY HIT ME. I MEAN, IT WAS HIS IDEA IN THE FIRST PLACE! THE COSTUME, THE ROOFTOP, EVERYTHING!

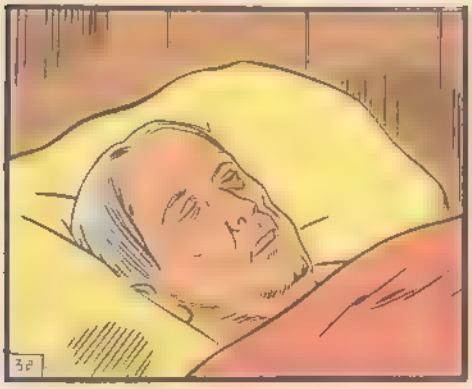




ANYWAY, THAT'S WHEN I DECIDED THAT I HAVE TO ALWAYS THINK FOR MYSELF, ONE HUNDRED PERCENT.

HELL, I'M A BIG BOY. I KNOW WHAT I'M DOING.





I DON'T NEED A GUY LIKE LOUIE TELLING ME HOW TO LIVE., I'M NOT THE ONE WHO NEEDS TO GROW UP!

JUST BECAUSE YOU'VE GOT A GIRLFRIEND DOESN'T MEAN YOU'RE A GODDAMN ADULT, LOUIE, SO STOP ACTING ALL SUPERIOR!

# Dear Dusty

I'm sorry I haven't written in so long, though I guess I shouldn't be. Did you know you haven't written me since that Christmas card?

Do you really love me at all? I hope so, though it would be better for you if you didn't.

I've been involved in something big. I can't talk about it right now, but you'll know everything some day.

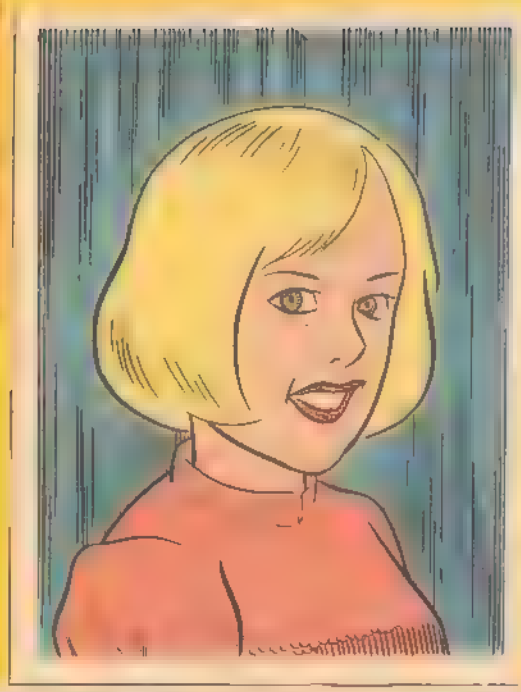
If you ever get a package from me, DON'T OPEN IT Put it in your closet and hide it away until you receive further instructions

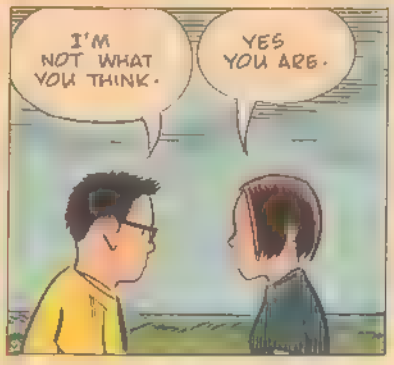
So how are you? I am fine. Actually, I feel kind of weird lately. I haven't been hanging out with Louie as much. He has a girlfriend now, so he's busy.

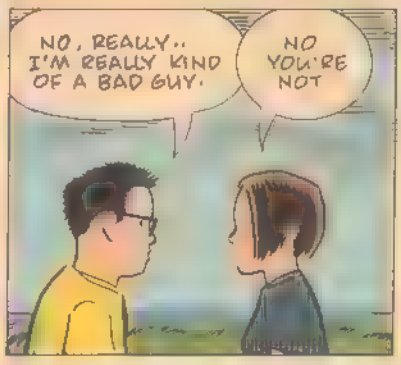
That's all for now. Why don't you write back to me soon, okay?

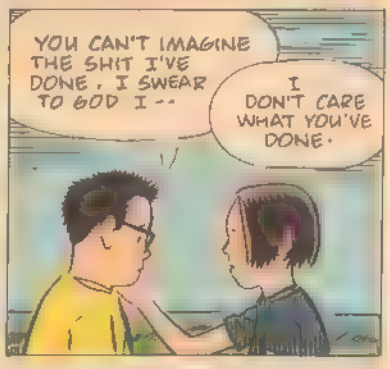
andy

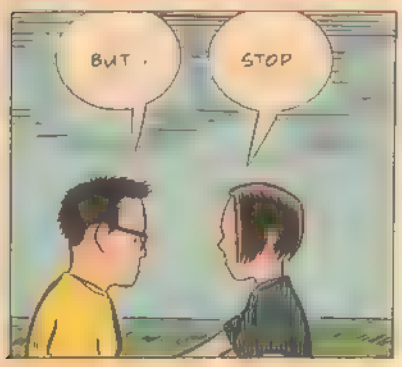
P.S Even if it's just a short note to tell me to stop bothering you.

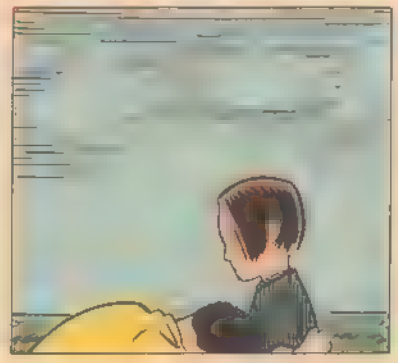


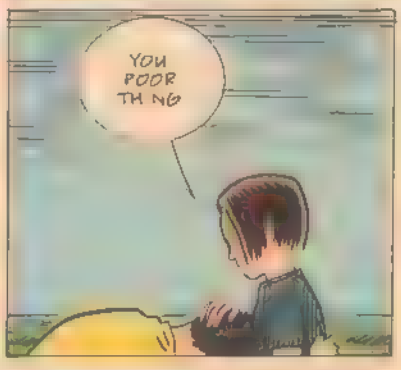


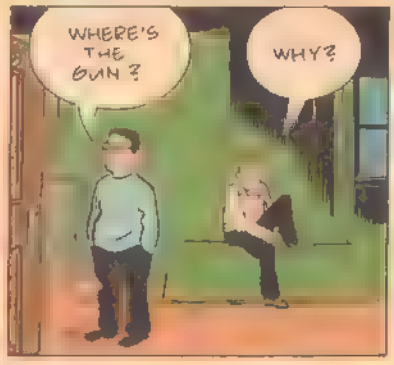



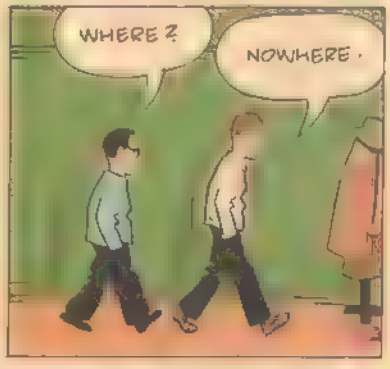



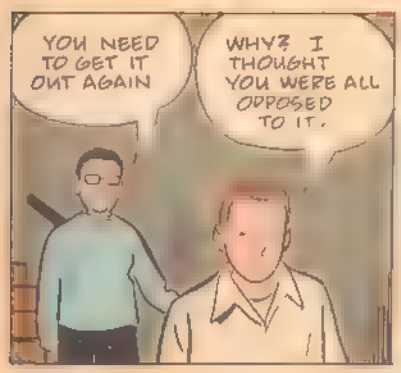



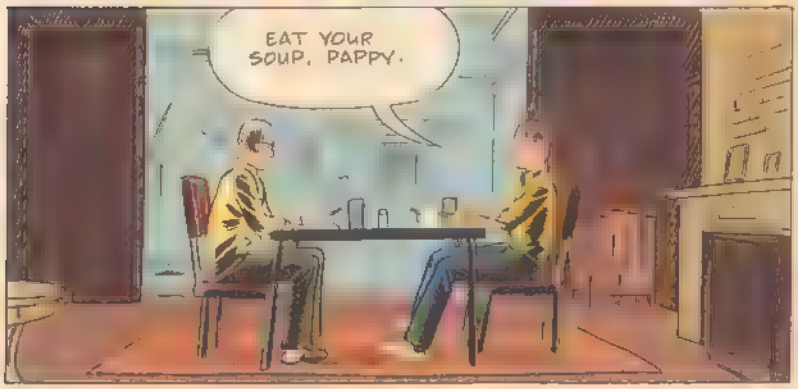


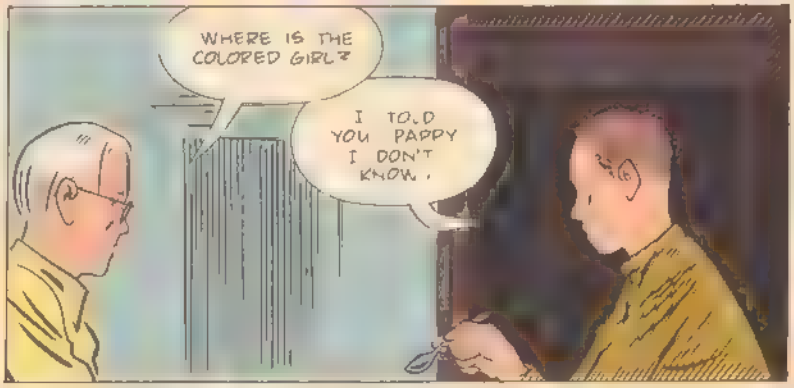


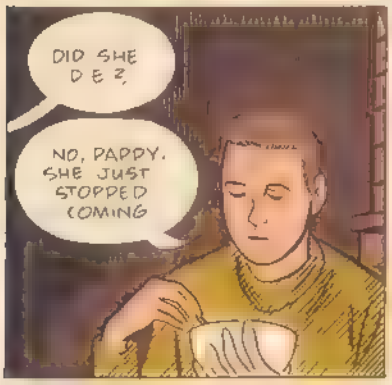


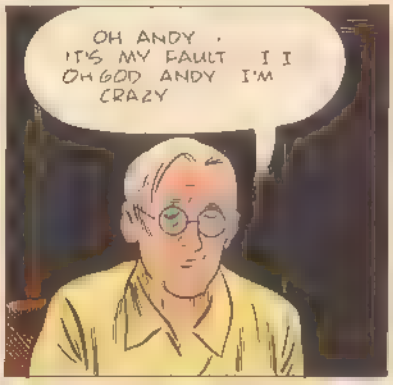



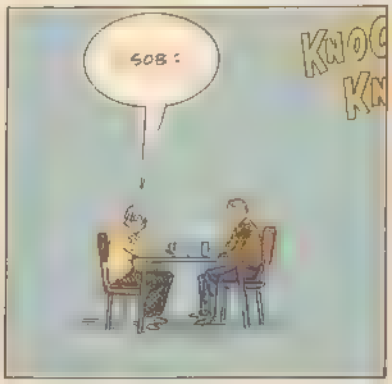
# THE LAST STRAW

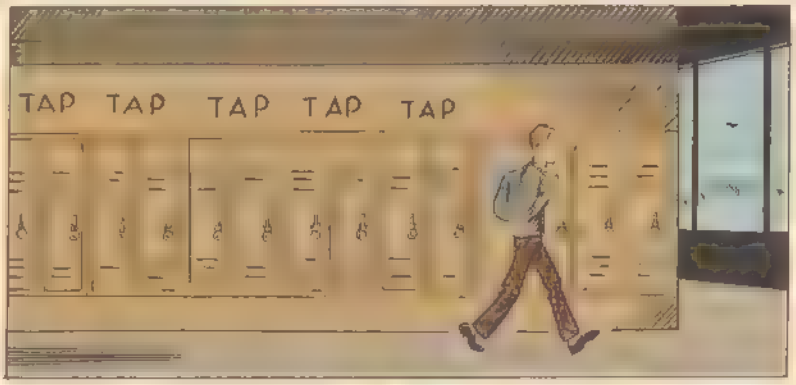


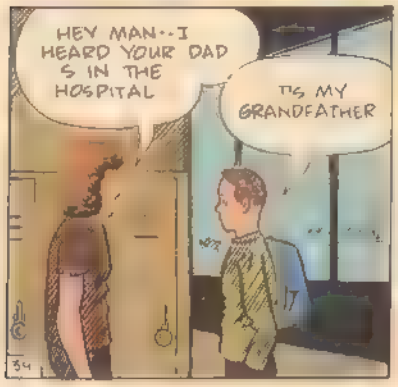



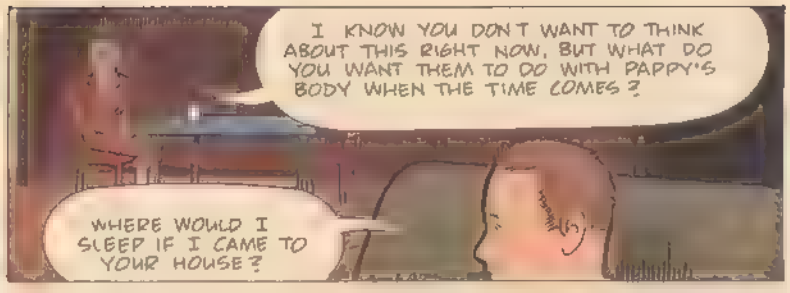



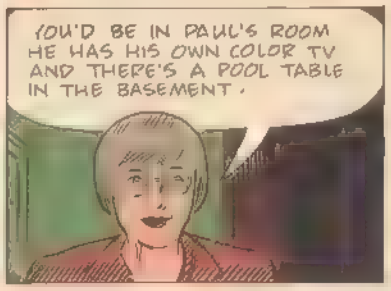




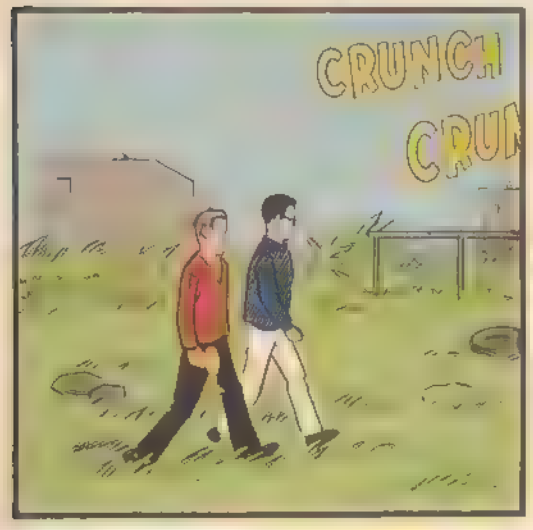


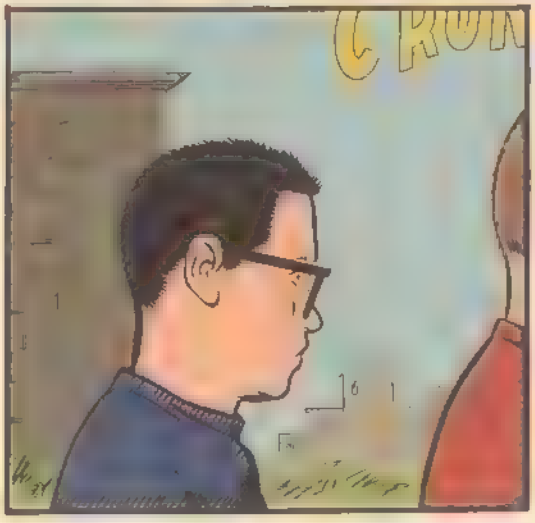
IT'S TIMES LIKE THESE THAT BRING A FAMILY TOGETHER, ANDY. YOU SHOULD HAVE BEEN LIVING WITH ME ALL ALONG.


I KNOW YOU DON'T WANT TO THINK ABOUT THIS RIGHT NOW, BUT WHAT DO YOU WANT THEM TO DO WITH PAPPY'S BODY WHEN THE TIME COMES?
WHERE WOULD I SLEEP IF I CAME TO YOUR HOUSE?

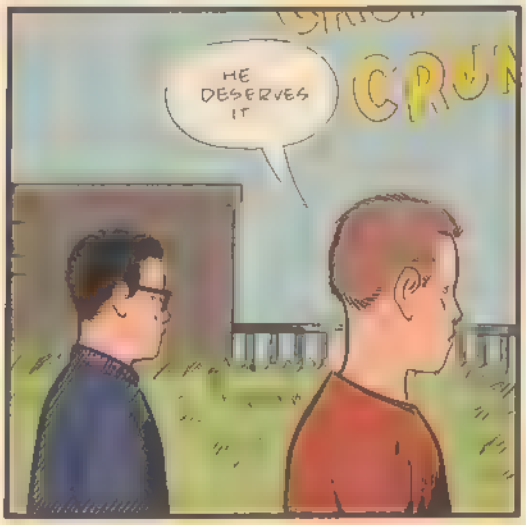

YOU'D BE IN PAUL'S ROOM HE HAS HIS OWN COLOR TV AND THERE'S A POOL TABLE IN THE BASEMENT.

I HAVE SOME THINGS I HAVE TO DEAL WITH BEFORE I CAN GO.


CRUNCH
CRUN



ARE YOU REALLY GONNA DO IT?


HE DESERVES IT

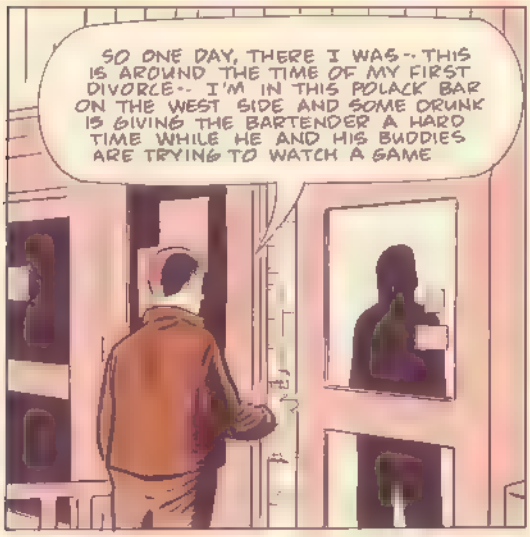
SO WHAT'S GOING ON? I THOUGHT HE WAS SUPPOSED TO BE WAITING FOR US?

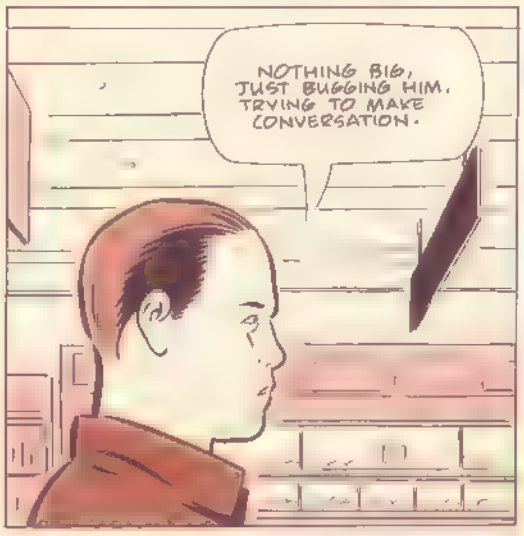
KEEP GOING JUST A LITTLE FURTHER

26
YEARS
LATER

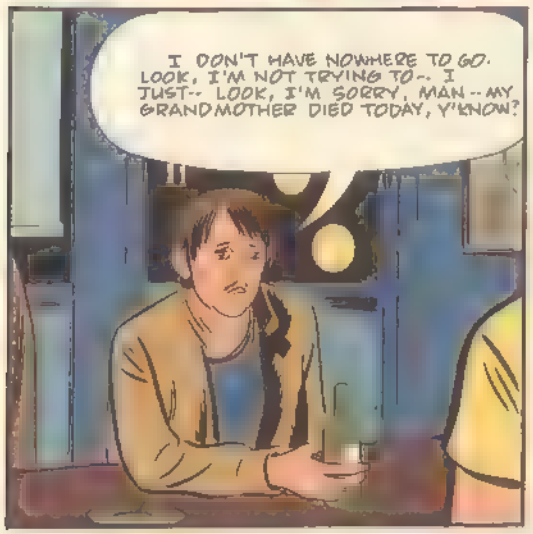
SO I WAS GOING TO TELL YOU ABOUT ALL THE TIMES I'VE FALLEN OFF THE WAGON..

I WAS GOOD FOR MANY YEARS. DIDN'T TOUCH TOBACCO AT ALL. IF SOMEONE GAVE ME GRIEF, I JUST STOOD THERE AND TOOK IT LIKE A MAN.

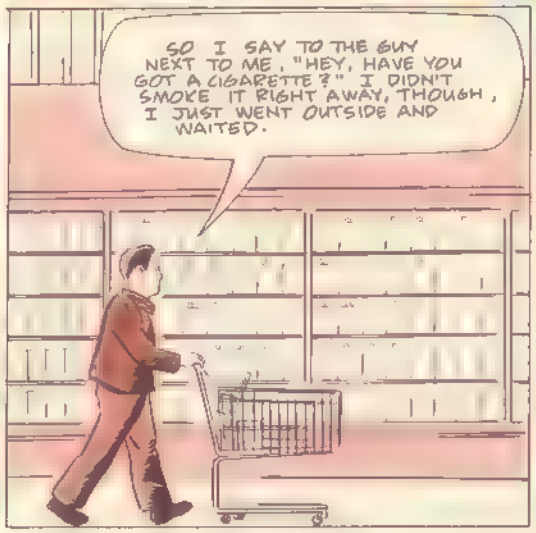

SO ONE DAY, THERE I WAS -- THIS IS AROUND THE TIME OF MY FIRST DIVORCE -- I'M IN THIS POLACK BAR ON THE WEST SIDE AND SOME DRUNK IS GIVING THE BARTENDER A HARD TIME WHILE HE AND HIS BUDDIES ARE TRYING TO WATCH A GAME


NOTHING BIG, JUST BUGGING HIM. TRYING TO MAKE CONVERSATION.

LOOK, DUDE, I'M BUSY. WHY DON'T YOU GO SOMEWHERE ELSE?


I DON'T HAVE NOWHERE TO GO. LOOK, I'M NOT TRYING TO -- I JUST -- LOOK, I'M SORRY, MAN -- MY GRANDMOTHER DIED TODAY, Y'KNOW?

I DON'T GIVE A SHIT. WHO CARES? I'M TRYING TO WATCH THIS


SO I SAY TO THE GUY NEXT TO ME, "HEY, HAVE YOU GOT A CIGARETTE?" I DIDN'T SMOKE IT RIGHT AWAY, THOUGH, I JUST WENT OUTSIDE AND WAITED.

BY THE TIME THE BARTENDER CLOSED UP I WAS STARTING TO FEEL A LITTLE SICK. IT HAD BEEN A LONG TIME.

STILL, I WAS ABLE TO DO SOME DAMAGE, AND I'LL BE DAMNED IF IT DIDN'T FEEL PRETTY GOOD.

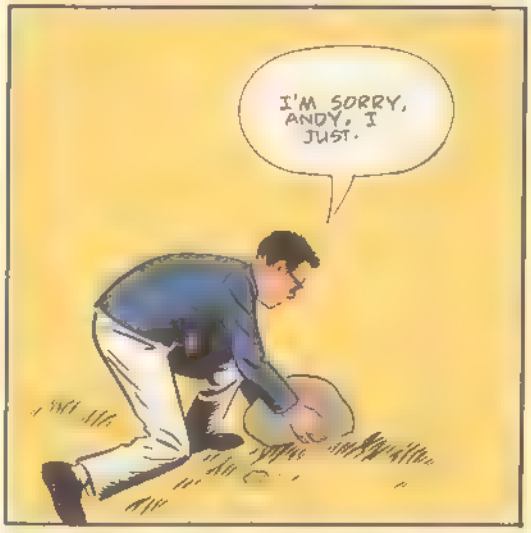
A COUPLE WEEKS LATER I HAD ANOTHER SITUATION, AND ANOTHER A FEW WEEKS AFTER THAT. THERE'S ALWAYS SOME PRICK WHO NEEDS A LESSON. I NEVER LET IT GET OUT OF HAND, THOUGH, AND I NEVER EVEN THOUGHT ABOUT THE DEATH RAY

I MEAN, SURE, I THOUGHT ABOUT IT -- HELL, I THOUGHT ABOUT IT EVERY DAY -- BUT I NEVER REALLY THOUGHT ABOUT USING IT, Y'KNOW?

AFTER WHAT HAPPENED WITH LOUIE I PUT THE GUN BACK IN ITS BOX AND SENT IT OFF TO DUSTY AND THAT'S THE LAST TIME I SAW IT FOR TWENTY YEARS.

I STILL DON'T KNOW WHAT HAPPENED THAT DAY, WHAT EVER IT WAS, I SURE DIDN'T SEE IT COMING. I LOVED HIM LIKE A BROTHER, I REALLY DID.

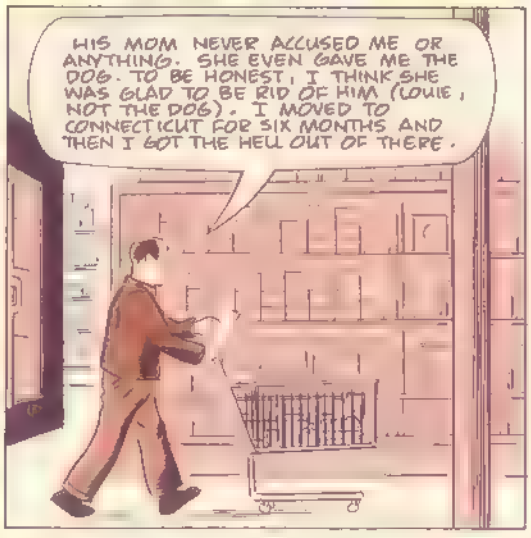
CLUNK


I'M SORRY, ANDY, I JUST.

PUT THE GUN DOWN, ANDY. I'M NOT GOING TO HU

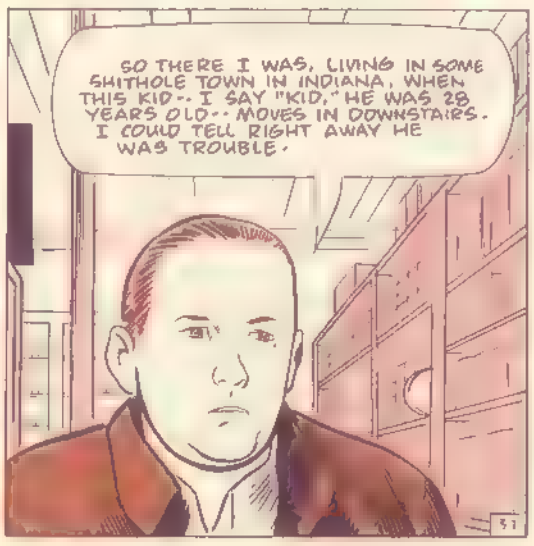
HE WOULD HAVE KILLED ME, I KNOW IT IN MY HEART. HELL, MAYBE I SHOULD HAVE LET HIM DO IT -- HE WAS A BETTER MAN THAN I'LL EVER BE.

OH SHIT SHIT!


HIS MOM NEVER ACCUSED ME OR ANYTHING. SHE EVEN GAVE ME THE DOG. TO BE HONEST, I THINK SHE WAS GLAD TO BE RID OF HIM (LOUIE, NOT THE DOG). I MOVED TO CONNECTICUT FOR SIX MONTHS AND THEN I GOT THE HELL OUT OF THERE.

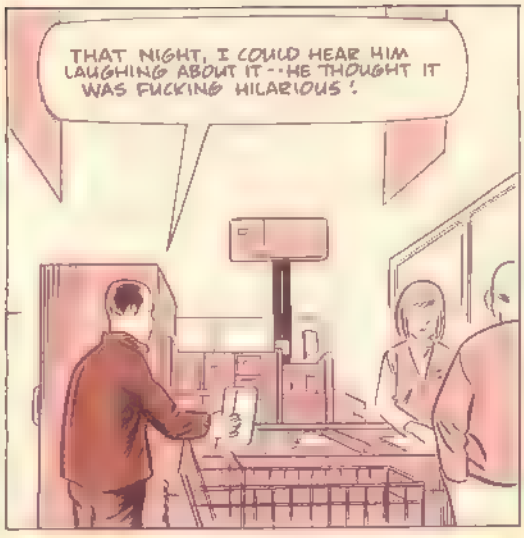
THEN THERE WAS THE WHOLE DUSTY FIASCO, AND THE TWO MARRIAGES.

AFTER THAT, I WENT THROUGH A VERY DARK TIME. I EVEN BECAME A CHRISTIAN FOR A LITTLE WHILE. I WAS LOST, I'LL ADMIT IT.


SO THERE I WAS, LIVING IN SOME SHITHOLE TOWN IN INDIANA, WHEN THIS KID -- I SAY "KID," HE WAS 28 YEARS OLD -- MOVES IN DOWNSTAIRS. I COULD TELL RIGHT AWAY HE WAS TROUBLE.

HE WAS FRESH OUT OF THE ARMY AND WAS LIVING WITH HIS GIRLFRIEND, WHO SURE AS HELL DESERVED BETTER. I COULD HEAR HIM RAPING HER EVERY NIGHT. SHIT, THAT WAS REASON ENOUGH TO TAKE HIM DOWN

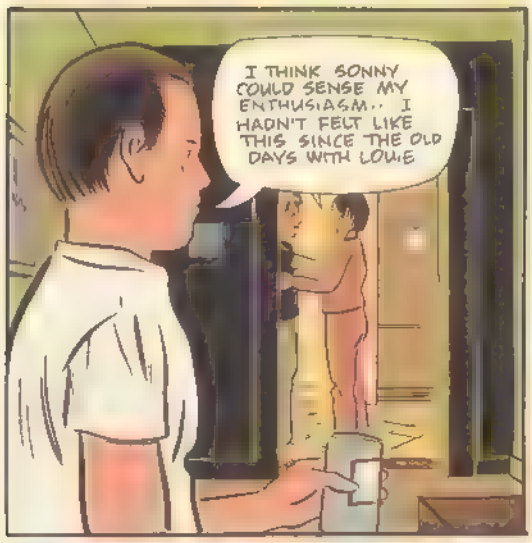
I USED TO KEEP LUCY CHAINED TO THE FRONT PORCH. DIANNE ALWAYS STAYS INSIDE. ARMY-BOY HAD THIS VICIOUS PIT-BULL AND ONE DAY I CAME DOWNSTAIRS AND THERE WAS LUCY BLEEDING WITH A BIG BITE MARK ON HER NECK!


THAT NIGHT, I COULD HEAR HIM LAUGHING ABOUT IT--HE THOUGHT IT WAS FUCKING HILARIOUS!

I KNEW WHAT I HAD TO DO, BUT I WASN'T SO FOOLISH AS TO THINK I COULD DO IT ALONE.

WELL LOOK WHO IT IS

YOU DON'T NEED TO SAY ANOTHER WORD, PARDNER. WHAT EVER YOU WANT ME TO DO, IT WON'T BE ENOUGH.


I THINK SONNY COULD SENSE MY ENTHUSIASM.. I HADN'T FELT LIKE THIS SINCE THE OLD DAYS WITH LOUIE

ANDY NEEDS A FRIEND RIGHT NOW AND I DON'T AIM TO DISAPPOINT HIM.

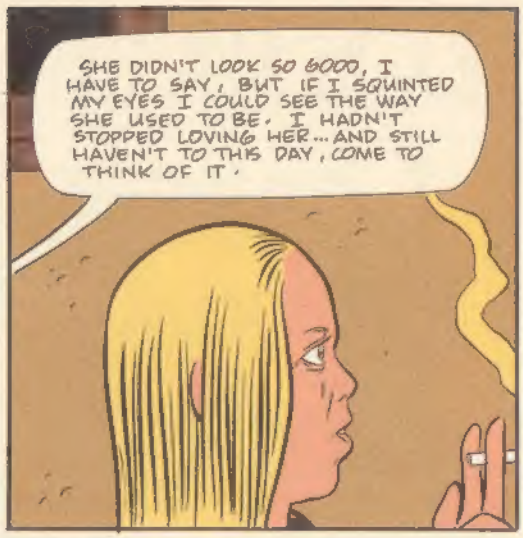
SO WE LEFT RIGHT THEN. WE FILLED UP SONNY'S CAR WITH GAS (HE DIDN'T WANT TO TAKE MY "RICE-BURNER") AND TOOK OFF THAT NIGHT FOR CALIFORNIA.
X WORD
DIET

IN ALL HONESTY, I THINK IT WAS THE BEST TIME I EVER HAD.

IT TOOK THREE WEEKS TO TRACK HER DOWN. SHE HAD A DIFFERENT LAST NAME, BUT SHE STILL LIVED IN LIVERMORE. SONNY HAD SPENT SOME TIME AS A BILL COLLECTOR, SO HE KNEW A FEW TRICKS.

BY THE TIME WE GOT THERE, HE WAS TOTALLY "ON BOARD." IT'S SOMETHING SPECIAL WHEN YOU HAVE A MISSION LIKE THIS AND EVERYTHING STARTS TO FALL INTO PLACE.

I MADE SONNY DO ALL THE WORK ONCE WE GOT THERE. I DIDN'T THINK IT WAS A GREAT IDEA TO SHOW MY FACE. BESIDES, HE HAS SUCH A GREAT WAY WITH PEOPLE.


SHE DIDN'T LOOK SO GOOD, I HAVE TO SAY, BUT IF I SQUINTED MY EYES I COULD SEE THE WAY SHE USED TO BE. I HADN'T STOPPED LOVING HER... AND STILL HAVEN'T TO THIS DAY, COME TO THINK OF IT.

BUT THAT'S NEITHER HERE NOR THERE. WE WERE ON A MISSION, AND THIS WAS JUST ONE STOP ALONG THE WAY.
SORRY, BUDDY-- SHE DOESN'T HAVE IT.

STILL, I THINK IT WAS A POSITIVE EXPERIENCE TO SEE HER AGAIN. ANYTHING THAT HELPS YOU TO UNDERSTAND YOUR OWN FEELINGS A BIT IS A PLUS IN MY BOOK.
THAT'S OKAY, BUDDY. LET IT OUT.

IT TOOK US ANOTHER TWO WEEKS TO TRACK DOWN THE GUN, AND THAT'S ONLY BECAUSE WE CAUGHT A LUCKY BREAK.

EVEN AFTER TWENTY YEARS I WAS ABLE TO DO A PRETTY GOOD DRAWING. I'M NOTHING IF NOT CLEAR-HEADED.
I THINK I SEEN THIS IN A SHOP OVER TO BAKERSFIELD.

WE GOT THERE JUST IN TIME-- HE WAS JUST ABOUT TO SELL IT ON THE COMPUTER. I HAD TO PAY FOUR HUNDRED DOLLARS FOR MY OWN DAMN GUN!

SONNY NEVER ASKED ANY QUESTIONS ABOUT THE GUN. I GOT THE IDEA HE THOUGHT IT WAS JUST SOME OLD TOY I WANTED BACK FROM CHILDHOOD, LIKE ROSEBUD THE SLED OR SOMETHING.

ANYWAY, I WENT BACK HOME AND TOOK CARE OF MY BUSINESS. EVERYONE WAS RELIEVED AND I FELT GOOD ABOUT IT. TWO MONTHS LATER I GOT THE HELL OUT OF INDIANA AND MOVED BACK TO THE OLD NEIGHBORHOOD.

I GUESS I ALWAYS KNEW I'D WIND UP BACK HERE EVENTUALLY. HELL, WHERE ELSE AM I GOING TO GO?

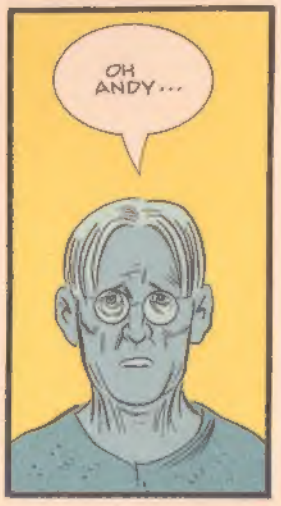
WHEN I WAS YOUNGER I USED TO DREAM ABOUT FINDING THE PERFECT PLACE TO LIVE-- THE KIND OF PLACE WHERE PEOPLE TREAT EACH OTHER RIGHT, Y'KNOW? WELL GUESS WHAT? I NEVER FOUND IT.

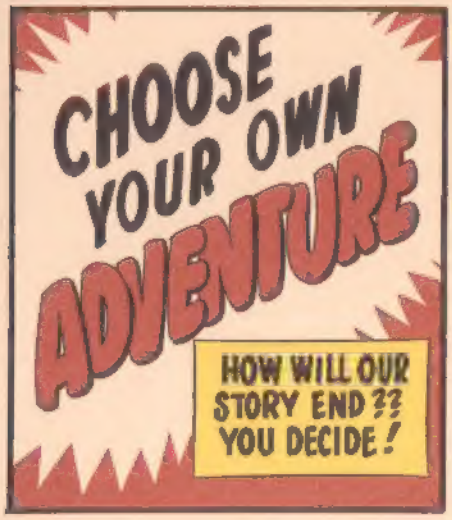
EXCUSE ME?

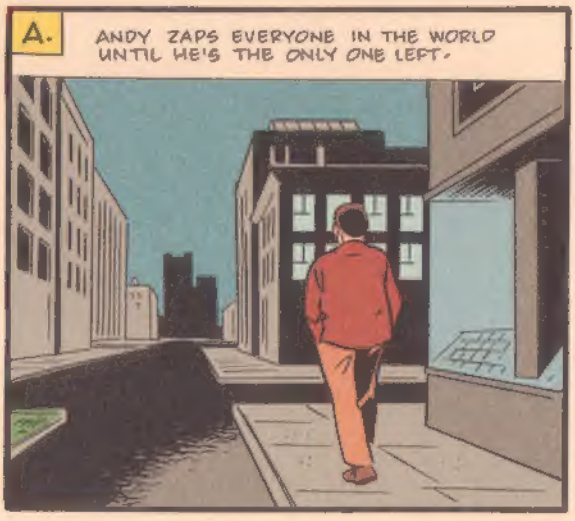
# THE UNITED STATES OF ANDY

# WHY DID ANDY DESTROY YOU?

# WHAT DO YOU THINK OF ANDY (AGAIN)?



C. HE CONTINUES TO LIVE MUCH AS HE HAS FOR THE PAST TWENTY-FIVE YEARS. AFTER DIANNE DIES HE GETS A FOX TERRIER NAMED MICKEY, AND AFTER THAT, A COLLIE. HE WRONG-HEADEDLY PURSUES A DIVORCEE ON THE THIRD FLOOR AND SHORTLY THEREAFTER DATES A WOMAN IN HER SIXTIES FOR SEVERAL YEARS. HE RETIRES FROM HIS JOB AT THE LIBRARY WITH THE INTENTION OF MOVING TO NORTHERN CALIFORNIA BUT FINDS IT TOO EXPENSIVE. HE REMOVES FROM EXISTENCE A PRIEST, A MAN WHO SPITS ON PIGEONS, AND THE EX-HUSBAND OF THE DIVORCEE ON THE THIRD FLOOR. HE BURIES THE DEATH RAY IN A SHALLOW HOLE IN THE INDIANA DUNES. HE BURNS HIS DAD'S PAPERS AND SCATTERS THE ASHES IN THE LAKE. AT SOME POINT HE DIES, PROBABLY OF LUNG CANCER.

# THE DEATH-RAY

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